

Love With No Regrets

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Summary: James Sirius Potter has found love? After his girlfriend breaks up with him, will James befriend longtime enemy Jillian Gillespie? Or even fall in love? And typical James, always messing up, they end up back in time with the Marauders...and Voldemort.

1. Chapter 1: James Sirius II

"BULL FROGS!" The youngest Potter exclaimed. "I say Thomas fakes a drop and J catches it. Everyone thinks think he'll shoot, but he won't. He'll throw the quaffle diagonally to me and I will shoot from there. If I make it, we're up a hundred-sixty so we win even if Slytherin catches the snitch."

James ran a hand through his messy black hair, a habit of his. "Okay, we're doing Lils plan. Let's win this cup!"

The Gryffindor common room shook to the beat of the music blasting from Fred's speakers. Everyone was partying, dancing on tabletop, and celebrating the cup that proudly joined the others on top of the fireplace mantle. James was slightly buzzed with firewhiskey in one hand and his girlfriend on under his other.

"Just think, we're gonna be graduating next year and we have to leave this team in the hands of Rose," Fred said, slinging an arm over James. "Maybe we could put in a word for Lily."

"Can we get a picture JP?" Lucy asked, hugging her boyfriend closer. "That way we can remember the best night of 6th year...and more to come." She winked up at him.

James's grin was ear to ear. He smiled into the camera and raised his glass. When the photo was taken, he shouted, "TO THE CUP!" then raised his empty red solo cup.

"James, I'm breaking up with you." She said it so confidently without hesitation. She didn't even seem to care about his feelings. She flipped her chocolate waves and walked off, forcing her little strut as she went.

"W-why?" James uttered before she left.

"I'm dating Blake Nott and he's taking me shopping next Hogsmeade!"

James scowled, forcing himself to walk away. Lucy was his longest relationship. He almost thought of loving her, but never let her into his deepest secrets or thoughts. Dating James Potter meant you only have him for two weeks or less until he loses interest earlier. That's how it went. But Lucy was different - it was six months, nearly seven, and she dropped the bomb.

News about Hogwarts power couple spread like a wildfire. The girls jumped at the chance to date the eldest Potter son and the Lucy was with Nott everywhere she went, him hanging on her arm like a leech. James took this time to find a rebound, or fifty. He dated a new girl every other day for until school ended, which was about half a month.

"Mate," Fred began, "I'll see you in a few weeks when we're back from Ireland. Take it easy, there will be another girl waiting for you. And tell me if one has a sister." He winked before joining the sea of redheads in the Weasley clan.

James saw his mum emerge from the brick pillar and joined her with Albus and Lily by his side. "Merlin, you guys have grown so much!" Ginny Potter exclaimed upon seeing her children. "Dad's at work but he'll be home by dinner. Also, the Gillespie's are coming over!"

James rolled his eyes, grabbed his luggage, and said bye to his friends before grabbing Lily's hand. Just before they apparated out, he caught a quick glance at the brunette with those big brown eyes.

They appeared in front of a large white house with a bright red door and white picket fence. Roses grew over the archway that led to the stone path and to the wraparound porch. Potter Manor, redone by Ginny of course. When they got to the gate, James threw it open and stomped right up to his room. Their loving house elf, Dory, offered to take his bags.

"Welcome back Mr. Albus and Miss Lily!" Dory said, bowing before them.

"Dory, you're to leave the kids' bags!" Ginny said. "They can fend for themselves, and don't even bother handling James. He's in a bit of a mood I suspect."

Lily smiled, scanning the house for any changes. There were none. "So mum, we won the cup! Plus I think Rose is dating someone but she won't say who. But Hugo is not too happy about it and neither is James. But he's not happy about anything."

Ginny nodded, following all the Hogwarts drama that had happened

since Christmas. "Oh, I was going to suggest having Lucy over for a dinner. Maybe that'll brighten his spirit up."

"Good luck with that... Lucy dumped him a few weeks ago. Maybe this week's girlfriend can stay over!"

"This _weeks_?" Ginny sighed, biting her bottom lip in thought. "I suppose a summer with no strings will do good for him. Anyways, the Gillespie's will be over soon and Jillian can hangout with him."

"That is if she didn't hate James..."

2. Chapter 2: Jillian Gillespie

The doorbell rang and outside stood three people. Andrew John Gillespie (AJ), Ashley Davis Gillespie, and their daughter Jillian. They walked in, surrounding themselves in the aroma of fresh pasta and meatballs.

"I will hex the living daylights out of you JAMES SIRIUS POTTER!" Lily shouted, holding her wand to his chest. "I do know a little something called the bat-bogey hex..." She smiled wickedly before putting the wand down. "Now go fix my table!"

James sighed, going back to the dinning room to reset the table that Lily had so carefully placed. "Merlin she's just like mum!"

"You're here!" Lily exclaimed, bear hugging all of them. "Dinners almost set when _James_ finally sets the table correctly. Come on in. Mum is cooking, dad is on his way, and Al is reading somewhere."

Albus appeared at the top of the stairs, slightly blushing at the sight of Jillian. "H-hey guys! What's up?"

"Finally settled down in our new home," Jillian said. "We're your neighbors a few houses down. Surprise!"

She smiled, all perfect white pearls in a line covered by pink lips. She had the brightest sapphire blue eyes and waist-length wavy golden blonde hair with natural beach highlights. She was bit over average size, about 5'7", and smarter than 98% of the Hogwarts. Brightest witch of her generation as Hermione put it. The other 2% of the school was Ravenclaw and James Sirius Potter.

"Oh, hey guys," James greeted, hugging his Professor AJ and Aunt Ashley. "Gillespie." He nodded at Jillian.

"Potter," she muttered.

"Welcome to world war three," Albus whispered to Lily. "So, who's ready for dinner?"

They shuffled into the dinning room and filled the seats while Ginny was getting ready. James bumped shoulders with Jillian on the way, and rolled his eyes. On his way to his seat, something tripped him and he face planted onto the hardwood.

"Gillespie." He growled.

He heard footsteps coming beside him and a hand on his back. "James, son, why are you on the ground? We have guests over." Harry Potter helped his son up, then greeted the rest.

Dinner was silent. James and Jillian glared at each other the whole time, not saying a word. "James pass the sauce," Ginny asked. He didn't move. "Jillian?" She didn't either. "James Sirius Potter." He grumbled something, but passed the bowl to his mother.

He starred straight into Jillian's eyes. Never noticing how pretty they were. "_Stop James, you hate her!"_ He thought, averting his eyes to his plate. "_She's Gillespie, the girl you hate. Her eyes are whirlpools trapping you in and prepping for death."_ He chopped his meatball and grumpily ate it, resting his cheek on his hand. "May I be excused?" Ginny nodded and he cleared his place.

He went up to his room and heard them talking again. About Jillian. "She won't know what hit her this summer." He went to his dresser and pulled out a sack of sickles. "Looks like I'll be taking a trip to George's Joke Shop." He stuffed the bag in his pocket, grabbed a jacket, and ran downstairs.

"James where are you going?" Ginny called.

"Uncle George needs my help at the shop!" He lied before slamming the door behind. He took the Knight Bus to Diagon Alley and walked into the shop. He bought nearly 60 dungbombs and every other thing that could spill, explode, and crawl. "Boy is she in for a treat."

When he got back everyone was inside talking except for Lily, Al, and Jillian. They sat outside. He walked over to them, sitting opposite of Jillian. "Hi," he said.

After a moment of silence, Lily decided to break the ice. "So James, who are you dating tomorrow?"

James rolled his eyes, shoving her lightly. "I'm going out with Lydia Jones if you must know." Jillian scoffed.

"Are you dating anyone?" Albus asked Jillian, looking at his feet.

She shrugged, "No I'm not really interested in anyone right now."

"Like anyone would wanna date a troll," James said.

"Well at least I'm not a man-who're who can't keep a girl because of his egotistical fat-arse head of his." She crossed her arms, glaring at him in the dim lighting.

James opened his mouth to say something, but closed it. "Shove off Gillespie. At least I can get a date. I don't see you shagging anybody lately." He got up abruptly, tipping the chair back and letting it crash on the stone patio.

"Well I think your gorgeous," Albus muttered.

"Thanks, at least your not like your brother. I will never like him."

3. Chapter 3: The Bet

James wasn't himself lately. All he did was date, pout, and yell. Lily missed her older brother, the one who would go pranking around Godric Hollow with her and piss off Albus. She found his stash of dungbombs under his bed and sighed. "When will he come back?"

She had taken a look at all past exes and realized they were Lucy-lookalikes. Brown hair and brown eyes.

Jillian had come over often, and hung out with Albus and Lily mostly. She fought with James daily, almost as if it were a routine. Come over, hangout, fight, leave, come back, repeat.

Then one day it happened. Nobody expected it. It just came out.

"You're such a douche. You can't just send your cousin up on a broom whose afraid of heights! Merlin your...indescribable."

"I believe the words your looking for are Godly and hot." He smirked, running a hand through his hair.

"No I think the words are selfish man-whore and a downright arse." She pursed her lips, looking ready to spit fire.

"Well do you wanna go out?"

She blinked, taken by complete surprise. "What?"

"Jeez Gillespie. I guess some people really don't know when someone asks them out. Seeing as I'm the first."

She splashed her drink on his face. "For your information, I've been on tons of dates! But your too busy with your shit to notice that there are people In this world beside your Potter bubble."

"Are you sure you don't wanna date this fine man?" Fred asked, slinging an arm over her shoulder.

"It's absolutely a repulsive idea that you would even ask that. Who would want to go out with James effing Potter? Sluts. And that's a no if I didn't make it clear." She got up and left with that.

"Haha nice one JP! You're totally screwing with her head," Fred clapped his back.

"Please, she'll could fall for me, I'm irresistible! I bet she'll date me by the end of the summer. And then I'll break her heart."

Fred laughed, "How about 10 galleons?"

James thought a minute, then shook his head. "Your on Weasley."

There was a cold breeze. Her textbook pages flipped ahead and her parchment paper flew across the room. She gathered her things, knocking over her ink bottle in the process. "Shit," she muttered. She grabbed some towels and wiped it all away. She heard footsteps behind her a whizzed around, seeing a shadow down the hall.

"Get the hell out of my house, Merlin forbid you try anything." She grabbed her wand and slowly crept towards the door. Something rolled last her foot, stopping in the center of her room. Before she realized what it was, it went off. Sending its fumes of stink all over her room. "POTTER!" She shrieked.

Once all the stink had cleared, he stepped into her room. "Yes?"

"I hate you."

"So wanna go to Hogsmeade?"

She glared at him, throwing her quill straight at his face. But to his quidditch reflexes, he caught it. "Nice try."

"Why would I ever go out with a jerk?"

James laughed, "I didn't know Malfoy asked you out!" She glared again, her bright blue eyes narrowing. "Anyways, how about you go on a date with me and I'll leave you alone all summer."

"How about you leave me alone and never speak again?" She grabbed him by the ear and dragged him out the front door. "I need to Potter proof my house." She slammed the door in his face and went back to her room.

There was a tap at her window. She let in Bitsy, her best friend Tegan's owl. She untied the piece of parchment and gave Bitsy a treat while she read.

Jillian,

>I can't wait until I get back home! I hate Greenland. Who knew it was covered in ice! Anyways, I heard you moved next to the Potter's, lucky you. Maybe you and James will have a fling ;) and _**FINALLY **__get together. Put in a good word for me to Fred. _

>xoxo -TQuill

She smiled and pulled out a new sheet of parchment and opened a fresh bottle of ink. She grabbed the quill James had tossed and began to write back.

"JP, I can't believe you threw a dungbomb in her room!" Fred exclaimed. "I bet you she'll never date you know."

James rolled his eyes. "Whatever. Like I'd want to date her. I've got my eyes set in a particular girl. I met her in Diagon Alley the other day. After I broke up with her sister."

"James, I'm all for dating and pranking, but don't you think you should stop this? I mean sisters! You could have at least introduced me to one." James raised an eyebrow. "Anywho, I think you should talk to Lucy again."

James shook his head. "How about some quidditch?" He grabbed his Firebolt and left his room.

Fred followed after, but stopped to get some food from the kitchen. "Hey Lily, has James ever written to Lucy recently?"

"No. But someone has been writing him a lot." She pointed over to a stack of unopened letters addressed to James.

"Thanks." He took a bite from his apple and left. "So JP, you think you and Lucy will get back together?"

"I don't know." He looked the other way, into the distance. "Do you reckon I could make it into the neighbors' basketball hoop thingy from here?"

Fred shrugged, "Sure. But back to what I was saying, do you still like her?"

"Here goes nothing." He flew over to the neighbors' house and hovered over the pool.

"So...you think you'll date her again?"

James dropped the ball and watched it free fall into the hoop. Nothing but net. "That's what I call skill!" He flew back over to Fred. "See that?"

"Yeah. So who are those letters on the table from?"

James stopped smiling. "You're going through my stuff?"

"Technically they were out in the open."

James sighed and flew away to retrieve the quaffle laying in the pool. When he came up, he sped right past Fred and to the goal posts. "So who's keeper?"

Lily stared at the letters. Each one of them taunting her. She grabbed her wand and knocked them over. "Oops." She bent down and looked at each letter. All addressed to James S. Potter in loopy handwriting. They were in the same handwriting and all from Lucy. "Merlin she's crazy." She peeked out the window to see Fred and James flying around. She duplicated the letters and went up to her room, shutting the door behind.

She went through every letter. Each one with a journal entry of her boyfriend. "No wonder he's pissed." She shoved the letters under her bed just before Albus barged in. "What?"

"What's that?" He walked over and grabbed a letter but she tackled him. "Whys so secretive? Get off me!" He opened the letter and began reading it aloud. "I love seeing him and he's so gorgeous! Way better than the Potter I dated. I think I might love him, the first real man." He looked up at his baby sister. "I didn't know you dated a Potter!"

Lily slumped on her bed. "Funny. They're James' letters."

"Ouch. Lucy's a real bitch." He tossed the letters back under her

bed. "Does he know you have these?"

"Yes. I went up to him and said, 'hey can I have these letters your ex-girlfriend wrote and read them so I know why you've been an arse lately?' You call yourself smart."

Downstairs, the two boys had come in all sweaty from their mini-match.

"What's for dinner, mate, I'm starving," Fred said, rummaging through the fridge. "Are your parents home?"

James shook his head, tracing the stack of letters beside him. "They're not coming home until tomorrow afternoon." He picked up the letters and out the window. "Let's have a bonfire."

Fred dropped the match on top of the gas covered wood. "Would you want to be turned to ashes or buried when you die? I think I'd rather be burned so nobody steals my body."

"Mhm," James mumbled. He was too distracted by the letters. "Whatever."

Lily came out, her arms filled with s'more supplies. "Are we burning something just having family time?" She looked at the letters in James' hand. "So burning. Have you even opened these?"

The gate opened and Jillian came through. Everyone turned to her. "Staring is just as rude as pointing." She sat next to Fred and Albus and waited for someone to speak. Nobody did. "So...nice weather we're having, huh?"

"I invited her," Lily said. "Just because you hate her, J, doesn't mean I do. Jillian, can you get some sticks to roast the marshmallows in?"

"Sure." She went out the gate and out to the forest.

James snorted, still staring at the unopened letters. He tossed one in the fire and watched it burn. Instead of one by one, he tossed the entire stack in and watched the ink melt. He got up and jumped the back fence, leading to the forest. "I'm getting more wood." He called back.

4. Chapter 4: The Woods

Jillian stared up at the oak tree, tempting her with its long twigs. "I will reach you!" She grabbed a low branch and hauled herself up. She looked at her hands, a little scuffed from the bark, but not too bad. She stood up, using the branch above to balance herself. "Why can't there be tiny shrubs in these woods?" She sighed and continued to climb higher until she found the jackpot. A sturdy branch led to a bunch of other sticks perfect for roasting.

She crawled to the end, right before the branch started to narrow and yanked at the sticks. She had collected at least 3 until she heard a noise underneath her. She froze, straddling branch and one arm keeping her balance.

She heard muttering, but saw no body. Last time she checked, nobody had followed her to the woods. That Voldemort dude her parents told her about was gone, so she was fairly safe. The person hadn't moved for awhile and probably wasn't going to. She made herself comfortable, wrapping herself in her sweatshirt and curling against the tree.

Almost 20 minutes had past and the person still rested at the bottom of the tree. Jillian had dozed off a bit, her eyes getting heavier by the second. She shook herself to stay awake but that only made her sleepier. Her head fell and her leg had loosened around the branch. She woke up, a bit too quickly, and bam. She fell right into the strangers lap. Blue met hazel and she knew they were no strangers.

"I knew you'd fall for me," James chuckled. "But not quite literally."

"I just fell fifteen feet off a tree and I'm great. Thanks for asking." Jillian got up, wincing at the pain in her ankle. She began hobbling away, further into the forest. "I guess I'll see you at the house."

"House is the other way!"

She turned the other way and glared at him. "I knew that!" She began limping her way past him, ignoring the laughs. "It's not nice to laugh at the injured and needy."

"I'm not going to let you wander around here crippled to get eaten by wolves." He reached in his pocket for his wand, finding nothing there. "I must've left my wand." He bent down in front of her. "Get on, Gillespie."

She stared at him for a moment, but decided to get on his back. Her ankle throbbed as she jumped, but once off the ground it began to feel better. She could already tell it was swollen by the black and blue marks but mostly because it was the size of a melon.

At first, Jillian tried to stay as far as possible from him and avoid all conversations. But, the constant motion of bobbing up and down as he walked made her eyelids heavy. The warmth his body gave off made her want to curl up and take a nap. She refused to sleep, forcing her eyes open and shaking her head to rid of the feeling. But that only made her more tired. She rested her head on his shoulder, her breathing becoming more even.

"Must be nice to sleep," James commented. "But I have to travel through the woods with an extra hundred pounds on my back."

"I'm not that heavy!" Jillian exclaimed. "Who said I was sleeping anyways?"

"Even breaths, body getting heavier, and soft snoring."

She hit his shoulder. "I do not snore!"

James laughed, "Sure... You know, maybe you're ankle is better now and I wont have to-"

She covered his mouth. "Shut up. Something is here." She whispered, barley audible in his ears.

There was a rustle of leaves behind them and then a branch snapped. They could barley see anything in the dark, only the light of the moon to help them. James led them to a tree, hiding behind it while they waited for the thing to pass by. Nothing ever did. It had to have been five minutes of standing in pure silence.

James ran a hand through his hair. "There was nothing! It was probably just a fox or something." He came out of hiding, and continued their trip back home.

It was silent again, neither of them talking. Jillian wasn't tired anymore, but studied him as he walked. He had dimples, she never noticed that before. His hair stuck up in many places like his father, and hazel eyes like his mother. She had heard many stories about the Potters, some almost to wild to believe.

She noticed the chain on his neck, his turtle necklace. It was handcarved and its mouth hung from a black and brown beaded chain. "What's that?" she asked, pointing to the turtle.

"McGonagall gave it to me. She said she confiscated it from my granddad when he used it to lasso something in class. Apparently its a family symbol meaning, 'Potters always get back in the current'."

Jillian nodded, thinking of what that meant. It wasn't long before they saw the house. It was still far, but at least they were getting somewhere. "I didn't even go very far into the woods, though."

"These woods change. Even when you don't go too far, it rotates and then you're on the other side. It would be much quicker if we had our wands and just accioed my broom."

"Yeah well neither of us brought them." There was another pause of silence. "So, I heard you and Lucy broke up."

She felt James tense underneath her. "Yeah, we did a while ago," he gritted through his teeth. She nodded, not wanting to push anymore buttons. "I don't suppose you're friends with her?"

"No, she's kind of a bitch, no offense. She's so rude to people and doesn't care who she hurts. She was hexing a first year! How could anybody hurt a poor innocent kid." She sighed, slumping her head back on his shoulder. "Sorry, I didn't mean to offend you or anything."

He shook his head, "I don't care. Aren't you dating that Writer?"

"No, we broke up...or he dumped me."

There was another awkward silence. This time it lasted the whole way back to the house. They walked through the gate to see the fire still going but nobody around. They must've gone to bed. They walked all the way into the living room before he set Jillian down on the couch.

"It's already ten-thirty!" Jillian exclaimed. "We spent an hour in the woods."

"I'll get you some ice for your ankle." He walked into the kitchen, looking for a bag to put the ice in. When he came back, she had propped her foot on a pillow, examining it. "That looks bad."

"It's just sprained. The swelling will go down with the ice and the bruise will be healed in a week." She took the ice he handed her and laid it on top of the bruise. "I'm studying healing. Thanks, for carrying me and for the ice. And for letting me crash on the couch."

"It's nothing." He bid her goodnight before disappearing up the stairs. He walked into his room and saw Fred playing with his snitch. "Hey."

Fred turned around in the swivel chair. "You're back!" He exclaimed. "What took so long? I thought you were mauled by a wolf or something." He stood up, reaching in his back pocket. "Here's your wand. You dropped it on your way over the fence."

James snatched it, tossing it on his bed. "Thanks."

Fred put the snitch back in the glass container it came in and sat back in the chair. "So, is Gillespie here?" James nodded. "Did you make a move on her?"

"No."

"I'm this much closer to ten galleons!"

James shut the lights off, crawling into his bed. "Night Fred," he said.

Fred transfigured a mattress, "Night J." He fell asleep as soon as his head hit the pillow.

James, however, stayed awake most of the night thinking of their bet. _Tonight wasn't terribly horrible._ Her company wasn't that awful but nice to have around. Talking was definitely better than fighting the whole time. He stared at his ceiling, his last thought of bright blue eyes staring back at him before he fell into a deep sleep.

5. Chapter 5: Beach Day

Jillian lay on the Potter's couch, staring at the ceiling. Her ankle swelling had gone down a tremendous amount but the bruise was now a sickly black and gray color. The smell of bacon wafted over to her, making her sit up. She saw Harry and Ginny cooking over the stove, love in their eyes.

Then there was a crash and a concoction of egg shells, pancake batter, and syrup flew into the air. She stifled a laugh while she continued to watch the Potter's.

"Harry!" Ginny exclaimed. "Look what you've done!"

Jillian couldn't tell if she was mad or if she was laughing. Either way, the laughs that echoed in the house answered her question.

"Me? I'm the one covered in batter and eggs!" He motioned to his head and the puddle he sat in. "Ginny Weasley, I thought you took after your mother in the kitchen."

"That's Ginny Potter." She helped him up and kissed his sticky lips. "You're missing something." She grabbed a bottle of whipped cream and made a swirl on his head. "There!" She then screamed when he made an attempt to pick her up. "Harry James Potter don't you dare." She held up the whipped cream in her defense. "This is Versace!"

He shrugged and lifted his wife, covering her gorgeous dress in the beige mess and topping her head off with whipped cream as well. "Well now it's laundry." He kissed her lips before setting her down. "What's that smell?"

"Merlin the food!"

The two rushed over to the stove to save the burnt pancakes and over-fried eggs. They turned off all the burners and placed the food on the bar table. "Well, why don't we go out for breakfast?" Harry suggested.

"Sounds great, but now I have to change my outfit!"

"Honey, we're wizards." Harry pulled out his wand and with a flick of the wrist, her dress was perfectly clean.

Jillian lay back down on the couch, smiling at the two. They were the reason she still believed in love, even after Writer. Somebody stumbled down the stairs and Jillian lost all hope of love again. James's hair stuck up all over and his shorts were ripped at the bottom. They were the shorts he had worn yesterday night when he had carried her. He had a few scratches on his arms but for the most part he was the same annoying boy she hated. Except this version of James was without a shirt.

"Morning," he grumbled, collapsing onto the chair across from Jillian. She couldn't help but stare at him, his 6-pack. "Checking me out?"

Jillian glared. "You wish."

He smirked, running a hand through the mop he called hair. "Mum, Dad, you're back early...what's for breakfast?"

"We're going out," Ginny said. "Are the others up?"

He shrugged. "I think Lily is showering because the goo I forgot to clean up from her ceiling and Al is getting his books that are floating about the house." Something dropped into his lap. _The Wizard of Oz_. "AL I FOUND ONE!"

"Gee, I think James Sirius Potter is a great name for our first child! He won't be anything like his namesake." She rolled her eyes at her son. "Go get them! We are leaving in twenty minutes with or without them."

James mumbled something about mothers before getting up.
"Alright."

Jillian decided to get up now, only slightly wincing at her ankle. She was right, the swelling had gone down and a big bruise covered her ankle. "Mr. and Mrs. Potter, thank you for letting me stay the night. I'll be going now."

Ginny smiled, "Come with us! I'm sure the others could love to have you."

"Since when did she get here?" Harry whispered.

"Go get dressed and come back. Then I can take a look at your ankle."

After breakfast, James walked Jillian back to her house. "Thanks for the walk, tell your mother it wasn't necessary to make you walk me."

"I had no way out of it." James stuffed his hands in his pockets. "Oh, Gillespie." She turned around, her golden locks framing her face perfectly. "Um...Fred and I are going to the beach sometime later if you wanted to join us. Rose is coming too, and this time I'm asking on my own will."

"Sure, thanks."

He nodded before shuffling back to his house. "James Potter, who are you?" She stared at the boy who had just invited her to go swimming. Which meant they would be half naked around each other. Granted he was shirtless this morning, it was still different. A week ago, she would have laughed and told him he was off his rocker. She shook her head and went straight to her room.

There was a knock at the door and a bushy haired brunette stood, admiring the archway. Jillian answered, happy to see her roommate again. "Rose!" She hugged the girl. "Come in, how's your summer?"

"Great, but dad's not happy about Hugo dating a Parkinson. How about you?"

"Pretty good, if you don't count Potter living a few houses down." The two laughed as they entered Jillian's room. "So Hugo's dating Katie Parkinson? He gets a Slytherin and I can't even stay with a Ravenclaw. Well what about you and your mystery?"

Rose frowned. "You and Writer are no more?" The blonde nodded. "I'm sorry. I know you really fancied him. And I'm not dating anyone right now. It was a rumor. Anyways, you ready for the beach?"

Jillian nodded and grabbed her bag. "My parents are visiting the Longbottoms today, so I just have to owl them before we go." She scribbled a quick message before sending it off. "All set!"

They waited at the stop sign at the end of Godric's Hollow and waited for the Potter's to join. When the rambunctious group came along, they apparated straight to the nearest beach.

"It feels good to be seventeen," Jillian said, putting on her sunglasses.

"Last one in the water pays for lunch!" James shouted, dropping his stuff in the sand and racing to the icy water.

Lily was second to follow, then Fred, and finally Rose.

"I'd much rather invest my time in a book than freeze my arse off in that water," Al said, laying down his towel.

Jillian agreed, but something pulled her to the water. "I think I'll go for a swim." She shimmied off her sundress and jogged over to the others. She stopped right at the tide reached her feet. It was like the Arctic, but on a hundred degree day, she was grateful for it. She slowly made her way until her knees were below the water.

"Yay you came!" Rose exclaimed. "I guess Al is paying for everyone."

They all turned to the fifteen year old lounging about with his book in hand.

"When are the others coming?" Lily asked, jumping over the waves.

James thought a moment before pointing over to a gang of redheads coming their way. "Now."

They group moved together, as one big clan of fair-skinned redheads. The entire Potter-Weasley clan was here. The small group stayed in the water, waiting for the others to come over but it took awhile. Victorie and Teddy were first to come over and greet them.

"Teddy!" Lily exclaimed, koala hugging him. "Victoire," she hugged the Veela. "How are you?"

"Good," Victoire said, putting her hair up in a bun. "Ugh, salt water and my blonde hair do not mix very well."

"Come on Vic, live a little!" Teddy picked her up, slinging her over his shoulder. "I think you need to clean your beautiful blonde hair with nature's bath." He carried her until the water was at his waist.

"Teddy Lupin you set me down right now. Merlin forbid my hair gets wet!" Victoire shouted, pounding on his back.

"Okay." He dropped her and she fell underwater. "You said to set you down. You just don't float."

She arose, her hair soaking wet and her face redder than Lily's hair. "My hair!" she screamed like a banshee and stalked past him, shoving him down. "You are dead to me." She walked out of the water with such grace and anger and sat beside Dominique who was putting on sunscreen.

"Vic, you're hair!" Dom exclaimed. "It's going to get all frizzy now."

"No shit sherlock." She sprayed on some sun tan lotion and settled in the sun, far from the water and Teddy.

"So are all blondes that high maintenance?" Fred joked to James.

The two boys turned to Jillian who was staring at the shells under the water. Identical smirks appeared on their faces and they slowly made their way to Jillian.

"Hey Gillespie!" Fred said, drawing her attention. "You know Teddy right?"

She nodded, waving the blue headed boy talking with Lily. "Yes, I'm not an alien to your family."

"True, true..."

Before she turned around, James snatched her by the waist and carried her bridal style, Fred following behind.

"James Sirius Potter if you drop me you will never see daylight again and Fred, you better run like hell when I'm through with Potter." Jillian glared at the two of them, clinging to James for dear life. The water was freezing, she was dry. The tips of her golden blonde hair skimmed the water and every time a wave passed, her back was given a cold chill. "Potter." She gave him another warning look.

"Okay. I promise I won't drop you Jilly-Bean!" He tossed her in the air over to Fred, who caught her with strong arms.

She glared at him with her bright blue eyes, competing with the brilliant blue of the sea. "So I'm a beach ball now?"

"We'll you're light enough to be one," Fred commented, lifting her up and down as if she were a weight. "Here JP." He tossed her, sending her soaring through the air right into James's arms once again. The two went back and forth, a few times when Jillian almost didn't make it. They weren't tired, and Jillian was actually starting to enjoy it until she fell straight through James's arms.

She decided to stay underwater, just for kicks. She, unlike most others, could open her eyes in saltwater and could hold her breath thanks to swim lessons as a child. She swam behind Potter and emerged, attacking him from behind.

"Shit!" James exclaimed before going under.

The blonde proudly stood over him, staring at Fred, her next victim. She made an attempt for him but something had pulled her down. James stood up proudly making his was over to Fred. "Blondes these days."

"POTTER!" Jillian exclaimed. She charged for him, until Fred swept her up. "I'm sorry, bros before-"

"Don't finish that sentence," she warned. "Could you at least carry me over to Rose?"

Fred nodded and made their way to Rose. "So, Gillespie, fancy anybody lately? Any particular messy haired Potter's these days? I hear they're quite in season."

"Pft, as if. Potter is the last person I'd want to date."

"Great, keep up the motivation!" Fred ran off, smirking. "This is the easiset 10 galleons I'll ever make."

Jillian wiped the sand off her thighs as she made her way to Rose and a particular Scamander twin. "Hey guys," she fanned of with her hand, a smile growing on her face. "Is it getting hotter, or is it just you two?"

"Well it is supposed be ninety degrees today," Lorcan said, playing with his shades.

"I was listening to the news and it said more people tend to go on dates in July! How ironic is that?" Rose sent her a glare, but ignored . "You know, I have tickets for the Christmas in July ice skating fest for me and Writer, but you know...that ended. So you two should go together!"

Lorcan smiled, "Sounds cool, we should all go. Keep the tickets and I can tell Lysander and the Potter's and Rose can tell her family."

"Ooor...you can just go with Rose."

"But then how will we all hangout?"

Jillian clenched her fists and sighed heavily. "Lorcan, you are about as daft as Potter. Rose likes you!" Lorcan opened is mouth but closed it in thought. "You obviously like her otherwise you wouldn't be blushing. So you are taking tickets as a date! That's when so people go-"

"I think he get a it Jillian!" Rose interrupted. "So much for keeping calm!" She was about to leave when Lorcan grabbed her hand.

"Are we still going?" he asked.

Rose blushed, turning back around. "What?"

"I believe he asked, 'Are we still going?' As in going to the festival on a date!" Jillian explained as if it were obvious. Rose didn't answer but smiled. "She says yes. Pick her up at my house around six!"

They were heading back up to their towels when Lorcan came running up to them. "So, do you wanna hangout later today?"

"She thinks it sounds great! But you should get back to duty. Someone could be drowning it's your fault." Jillian pointed to a bunch of kids at the shoreline. "See you later!"

They ended up having dinner at the barbeque tiki place along the water. James and Fred were shirtless, thanks the waves that swallowed their shirts up. Jillian couldn't help but stare at James. Any girl would die for him, it was fairly obvious the way they fanned over him

like he was some God. Well...they did call him the Gryffindor Sex God for a reason. She didn't realize she was staring, she was too engaged in his chiseled features, God carved jawline, and muscles from all he quidditch he played.

"See something you like?" James asked, his annoying smirk surfacing.

Jillian shook her head, holding back a blush. "Not particularly. I did meet a hot lifeguard though, he seemed into me too. Gave me his number and everything."

James scowled. "Well I don't see you staring him down like the last piece of meat. Take a picture, it will last longer."

"Please, deflate your head a little, it's a wonder you aren't floating up in space."

She started to walk past him but he stood in he path. "So you know that festival this weekend? We should go together."

"I already have a date." She swore inside her head. "Besides who would want to go with you?" She stared into his hazel eyes. He looked slightly hurt by her words, but she shrugged it off. "Excuse me."

She walked away, her head swarming with thoughts._ How the hell am I going to get a date in 2 days! Ugh...and why did James look so hurt by what I said? Forget it, but he looked hot today - NO! He's the repulsive James you have always hated. Fuck, did I just call him James?! And hot! Merlin help me._

Rose smirked when Jillian joined her. "Honey, you are so falling James Potter."

6. Chapter 6: Falling For a Potter

"I am not!" Jillian exclaimed. "There is no universe where James freaking Potter would like me and let alone I like him back! That is absurd."

Rose shook her head, "Then why are you thinking of him? Wow, all you think of is him!"

"Are you using Legilimency on me!"

"Ha! So you are thinking of him!" She took a seat and smirked, much like James would. "I've got the Granger in me. Besides, I saw you staring at him. Your pupils were so big you could barely see any blue."

Jillian blushed, "Shut up. I have bigger problems! I need a date for the festival!" Rose gave her a confused look. "I told him I had a date and that's why I couldn't go with him."

"Great, now we have to go boy hunting. Where's that lifeguards number? I think he was Lorcan's friend. We can call him up and you go with him."

Jillian nodded, searching her bag for the small shell he wrote it on. She finally found it, dusting off the excess sand from inside.

"There's no number in here, just an address," Rose said, staring the shell. "You know what that means?" Jillian shook her head. "For a straight O student, you are really daft. It means that he's a wizard! Go owl him!"

"Are you sure, Rose?" Jillian asked, pulling out some parchment. "I don't want any muggles screaming over my owl. He's quite sensitive to noise."

Rose rolled her eyes, "Just write the letter!"

"_Just write the letter _jeez someone's pushy." She ignored Rose's glare and began writing.

Lifeguard,

I'm afraid we haven't exchanged names. I'm the blonde from the beach (that's pretty vague...) Or maybe I just haven't heard your name. I would like to go on a date with you to the festival this weekend along with our other friends. Such as Lorcan Scamander. I'm pretty sure you know him. Please owl me back and don't hesitate with Athena. (She likes to be stroked on the neck)

Truly,
>Jillian G

_PS, how did you know I'm a wizard?! _

She sent Athena off and the girls waited for a response.

"When is Tegan coming back?" Rose asked. "She's written a few times that she's thinking of running away." She chuckled.

"A few weeks, then she's staying with me until the school year. Except I think her dad's taking her to France the last week of August. She's so lucky, I've only ever been to the States."

"The last week of August...that's around when the Potter's go on their camping trip, right?" Jillian shrugged. "Well, at least you'll have a week alone."

There was a tapping on the window. Jillian's black owl was perched on the flower box, awaiting her entrance to open. She flew in, her black feathers shimmering in the sunlight that reflected off the windows. She dropped the scroll in her claws on the desk and rested on her fake branch.

"It's from him!" Jillian exclaimed, tossing a treat to Athena. "Dear Blondie, or now Jillian," she read aloud, "I would love to accompany you on a date this weekend. Lorcan has told me some about you and a lot about this girl, Rose, if you know her. Looking forward to seeing you. I'll pick you up around 6. Also, you shouldn't leave your Hogwarts ring on, you could lose it in the water. Sincerely, Spencer...the Lifeguard."

"Yay you have a date!" Rose exclaimed. "But that still doesn't mean

you don't have feelings for a certain messy haired Potter."

"All Potter's are messy haired."

"A certain Potter. You know, hazel eyes, good body, quidditch captain, my cousin, eldest of three, middle name Sirius, first name James. You know. That certain Potter."

Jillian scoffed. "Well look at the time! You better be heading home. I heard Mrs. Weasley is hosting a big family dinner and you shouldn't be late. See you my bushy haired brainiac. Besides, I'm going off to bed."

"But Jillian, it's only five PM." She pointed to the sun which was far from setting.

"Never too young to catch that beauty sleep! You can't look like this without a beauty rest!" She gestured to her face. "I have lots of homework to do for school."

"You finished that already."

"Practice makes perfect."

"Stop beating around the bush Jillian Marlene Gillespie! You are falling for a Potter and you can't hide it with a fake date and endless excuses! If I'm not right I don't know what I am."

Jillian sighed and collapsed on her bed. "Okay, so maybe it's a fluke. Nothing too serious that I can't change with a hot lifeguard named Spencer! Besides, Potter's a player and clueless with women and arrogant and selfish."

"True, but James isn't that bad."

"He's had five dates this week alone since him and Lucy broke up! I'm just another pawn in his game of depression. It's obvious he wants skinny bitches with no regard for humanity! Stupid brunette bimbos. Maybe if he deflated his head and cut his ego in half, stopped asking me out as if it were a daily task, noticed little things, and actually considered other people. Only then would I consider going out with him."

Rose sat, mouth gaping. Not only had she admitted that she liked a Potter, she just gave out the ways to her heart. Or at least past the guards around it. "Well, now that you have admitted to your problem, we are going to fix it! We, my friend, are getting you a James Potter."

Jillian rolled her eyes, "Great."

The girls waited in Jillian's living room for their dates to arrive. After an hour of outfit searching and preparation, both girls lounged around playing a small game of cards when the doorbell rang.

Mr. Gillespie answered the door to see two young men standing outside in sweaters and a rose in hand. "Hello, Lorcan." He shook the sandy-blond's hand and turned to the taller one. "And you are?"

"Spencer," he held a hand out and was greeted with a firm shake.
"Nice grip, Sir."

"I've been told." He stared him down, arms folded with a stern face.
"Now what are your intentions with my little girl?"

"Stop giving him a hard time dear, I'm sure anyone Darlin' chooses is good for her," Mrs. Gillespie said. "It's lovely to meet you Spencer. Lorcan, tell your mother we're expecting her for tea soon."

"Of course," Lorcan said. "Mum always talks about how your old house was filled with Nargles which is why she never came over. Strange things those are...Lysander was scared for weeks when he was little."
"

Mrs. Gillespie chuckled before descending up the stairs.

The two boys stood there under the glare of Mr. Gillespie. It was complete silence, only the sound of Lorcan's humming. "So, this is a lovely get together." He said, continuing with his humming. "You know, I'll have to bring Lysander along next time to break the ice. Dad says he's got a knack for coming at bad times."

They waited about five minutes, which seemed like forever for them, until the girls came down. Spencer looked up, a look of relief in his eyes, and smiled at Jillian.

"Dad, stop pestering them," she said, joining the group. "He's a good guy, and it's just a date. Honestly, you act as if he was asking for your blessing!" She took Spencer's hand. "You ready?" He nodded.
"Great, love you mum, dad!"

"Nice talking Professor," Lorcan said, shutting the door on his way out. "Lovely chat your father is, Jillian."

The group headed downtown to where the festival was. Kids were everywhere, running around like their hair was on fire. To the right was the food courts and to the left was the rides, and in the front was the ice rink. They walked around a bit until they found the Potter-Weasley gang trying to hold James back from fighting a little kid who had kicked his shin. It was quite a sight to see.

"Well, I'm not surprised to see this," Rose joked. The gang looked at her and Lorcan, the smirks spread from Teddy down to the youngest Weasley. "Oh shut up!"

They all walked over to the ice rink and rented skates. James sat between Lily and Teddy, grumpily lacing his skates. "Fuck!" He exclaimed. "Lily, you tie them, it's like Salazar created these things!" He held out his foot and Lily undid his atrocious tying and redid it, laughing at him. "What?"

"Someone's jealous..." she said, staring at Jillian and Spencer in the distance.

"No I'm not! Just because she didn't say yes to go with me doesn't mean I'm some lovesick dope who can't get a girl."

Lily rolled her eyes. "We'll catch up later, Teddy." She grabbed James's hand and dragged him onto the rink. "It's so obvious you like

her."

"What?" James turned so she couldn't meet his eyes, steadying himself on the slippery surface. "I don't know what you're talking about. Did Hugo slip you a drug or something? I don't know where you came up with that accusation. All the times I asked her out was just for the stupid bet Fred made."

Lily shrugged. "You and I both know that's a lie. I see the way you look at her when she's around. You need to get over Lucy and all those wannabe bitches."

"Lily Potter! Swearing in public!" He shook his head in mock disappointment. He laughed and Lily shoved him right into Teddy and Victoire. "Fucking Merlin!" He toppled on top of the unfortunate couple and quickly got up. "I'm sorry guys."

Teddy laughed, helping the part Veela up. "First you announce to everyone we're snogging behind the platform and then you crash our date. What're you gonna do next? Crash the wedding!" He laughed, brushing off the excess ice.

"You two are getting married!?" he exclaimed. He grabbed her hand and saw the shiny jewl on her fourth finger. "Holy! Snitch you're serious! Am I best man?"

Both paled. They hadn't told anyone of their engagement yet, even though it had been a week since Teddy proposed. "Who knows, but I reckon you'll ruin the announcement as well," Victoire said, grabbing Teddy's hand. "Now, if you'll excuse us."

James smirked, getting up to find Lily had disappeared with Dominique and Lucy. He also spotted Jillian and Spencer skating, hand in hand, deep in conversation. He scowled and went off to find Fred or a decent looking girl. All he found was pizza. He sat down, downing his pizza and rootbeer while staring at all the couples skating around. "Damn, I need a girlfriend."

"You need a good shag," said a voice from behind.

"Tell me about it," he said, a small chuckle escaping his mouth. He turned around to see Teddy and Victoire.

"You know, I think you and Jillian would be good together," Victoire said, pointing to the blonde across the ice. "She doesn't like the boy she's with." James sat up a bit taller. "You can tell because he is talking and she is looking around for someone. Which means she is bored with him talking and her fingers aren't interlocked with his, she's just barley holding on to his fingertips. Like when you're with your mom and she wants to hold hands across the street. She is looking for friends to distract her, she doesn't like the company." Both boys stared at her, jaws hanging. "It's a girl thing."

"I don't think I've ever had a favorite cousin until now!" James got up, immediately tripping over his undone laces and face planting into the grass. "Do the french know how to tie skates?" He held up his foot and let the two tie it for him.

"See you later, mate!" Teddy called, sitting down.

"Good luck loser!" Victoire shouted.

Jillian listened to Spencer talk about his boring life at Durmstrang when she was collided with James. She fell right onto his chest, Specner falling backwards. "Um, sorry," she muttered, her face blushing profusely. She brushed her hair out of her face which was blocking the view of the world around her, like curtain around their faces.

"No, it was my fault," James said, grinning his trademark grin. "I crashed into you two." Jillian was suddenly hauled off of James, who was given a hand up by Spencer. "Thanks, mate." He turned to Jillian. "Um, mum said we have to be home by nine for a Weasley dinner. Ted and Vic have news... I'll leave you two to it." He began skating away but Jillian called his name.

"James!" He turned back around. 'Save me,' she mouthed. "Watch where you go."

"My pleasure. Actually Dom wanted to talk to you! Something about stupid girl stuff."

Jillian sighed and turned to Spencer, "Would you mind if I went to see her?" He shook his head. "Great! I'll catch up with you soon." He pecked her cheek and went off in another direction to Lorcan while Jillian skated off with James. "Thank you."

James smirked. "So, we're on first name basis, Jillian?"

"Don't get your hopes up, Potter."

"Ouch," he turned to skate backwards, in front of her. "You'd think after calling a guy by his name you'd stick with it. That's cold, Gillespie. Care for a skate?" But before she could answer, he dragged her around the rink gently, narrating everyone they had passed. "He's hoping for a good shag tonight because she dressed like a slut."

Jillian gasped, and jokingly hit his arm. "James! That's Rose and Lorcan!"

"Well, who would've guessed with all that makeup plastered onto her face like a hooker at the Three Broomsticks."

Jillian laughed loudly, covering her mouth. He grinned that he had made her actually laugh.

The two skated for as long as they could until Spencer had caught up with them. He pulled Jillian aside and sat on the bench. "Listen, I love hanging out with you and all but I don't think we're working."

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to ditch you. I was too caught up-"

"Having fun?" He chuckled. "I see the way you look at James, and I think you should go with him. It's obvious you weren't as interested with me as you are with him. Anyone can see you two like each other, even the blind! Besides, I think I made a connection with this girl, Alice Longbottom, and maybe it'd be best if we split ways."

Jillian nodded. Now that was two people who had told her to date James and one of them she had just met a few days ago! "Any girl deserves you. I was such an awful date, I'm sorry."

"No, you were amazing, but we just didn't have anything in common. I'll see you again Jillian Gillespie." He kissed the top of her head and walked off towards Alice and her friends.

Jillian stood there, deep in thought of what he had just said. _Why did everyone say she should date Potter? Sure he was fun to be with...no, he's a douche. No, he's sweet, and funny, and somewhat kind, and totally different! ...Shit. Is Rose right? Am I falling for James Sirius Potter?_

"Alright Jilly?" Rose asked. "You seem to be kinda dazed."

"I think I like James."

"You what!" Rose got up abruptly, a huge smile forming on her face. "I knew it! I saw you two together and ugh! You were so cute!"

Jillian glared at her. "Shut up. I said I _think _I do. I'm not really sure."

The gang gathered together around 8:50 and all headed back to the Burrow for dinner. James and Jillian were actually getting along, a surprise to the adults. They fought a few times, but who would they be if they didn't? Teddy and Victoire made their announcement during dinner that where engaged and everyone was thrilled, but James and Fred put shavings of puking pasties in Teddy's food. So the announcement to say the least, wasn't perfect. After dinner, most of the family flooed back home but the Potters and Jillian stayed back, along with Fred, Teddy and Victoire.

"Ginny, go home I don't need any help with the dishes!" Molly Weasley exclaimed, swatting her daughters hand away.

"Mum, there are far to many dishes to do without a house elf," Ginny countered. "We're staying and I'm helping whether you like it or not!"

James sat, sprawled out over the couch, Lily sittting on top of his legs.

"Find something to do or I'll hex you," Lily threatened.

"I can't since you're sitting on me," James noted. "And you're not as small as I remembered."

"You really wanna go there when I'm sitting next to the only part of you that can reproduce?" She raised an eyebrow.

"Uhhh...no." He shoved her off and moved quickly. "I'll find something to do." He groaned and got up, searching for a pack of exploding snap, muttering, "Stupid sister."

Jillian stared at all the family portraits on the wall, smiling at how James always seemed to be front and center laying on his side

with his tousled hair and a cheeky grin. She stared at one particular portrait of the family all yelling at James who had knocked over a few things.

"Aunt 'Mione didn't like that I stepped on her cat's tail and knocked over the photographers lights," James said, staring at the moving picture. "But that's my favorite photo."

Jillian gave a weak smile. "Mine, too." She hid the color surfacing her cheeks. She had never felt awkward around James, why did she feel like this she wondered.

James stared at the line of photos. "I don't how muggles cope with still photos. Like once it's taken you look the same! Granted I look perfect everywhere."

Jillian rolled her eyes. "So, when do you reckon the wedding is?"

"Spring, Teddy likes the weather and Victoire loves the scenery. Plus Vic was born in the Spring and was Teddy."

James saw the deck of cards behind her and made a grab, unintentionally tripping onto her. The two stood in that hallway what seemed like ages in silence, just staring at each other until Lily came up. "Are you two gonna stop making out with your eyes or should I just go."

Both of them turned the shade of Lily's hair.

"Right..." James said, grabbing the cards. "Care for a game of exploding snap?"

7. Chapter 7: Exploding Snap

Jillian sat across from James while she watched him battle Lily at Exploding Snap. It was like a battle to death, only one could win. His hair fell just in front his light hazel eyes and he bit his bottom lip in concentration.

"Shit!" James exclaimed, jumping from his seat as the tip of his hair singed off, floating onto the white carpet.

Lily snickered, staring at his hair. "To be honest, with that nest of hair you can't really tell." He glared at her. "What! It's true."

Victoire, who sat across the room talking with Teddy, looked up at their little row. "I can grow it back James, but I think this is good payback from all those times your burned my eyebrows off."

"Come on Vic!" She glared at the use of the nickname. "Vicky, I'm your favorite cousin and you know it. You were there when I was born and I was there when you and Teddy first snogged on the platform and the only one you liked when you two were both at Hogwarts! No offense Fred. I was the first to know you were engaged and the first person to walk in on you and Teddy hav-"

Victoire slapped a hand over his mouth, blushing profusely at all the

eyes on her. "I get it! You didn't need to announce it to the entire family! Again."

"What about Victoire and Teddy?" Ginny asked, stepping into the room.

He smirked at Victoire. "They put on quite a visual show from what I saw...sorta scarred me for life. Never thought you'd see your semi-brother heavily snogging your cousin and much more. I could go into detail but there are virgin ears." He nodded to Hugo and Lily.

Teddy howled with laughter from behind them. He had distinctively remembered when James was a first year and caught them in his room at the Potters, just before things got too heated. "Come on Vic! Just grow his hair back."

"Don't call me Vic, _Teddy Bear_." She crossed her arms, staring at his bright green eyes. He just continued laughing at the memories James had always been apart of. Victoire grabbed her wand and grew his hair back in the blink of an eye. "I grew your hair and you can never speak of it again. Deal?"

He shook her hand, smirking playfully at his eldest cousin. "Sure thing Vicky. But you know... I could use a new broom cleaning kit."

"Don't push your luck, kiddo," Teddy said, wrapping an arm around his fiancée. "Hullo Ginny, fancy a drink?"

She stared at him bewildered. "Sure, as long as you could tell me what you and Victoire were doing under my roof."

"Oh you know...Phys Ed," Teddy said. He stared at his aunt who was grinning in amusement. "

"Maybe you'll want to lock the door this time!" James called after.

The entire room, including Teddy burst into laughter.

"Ted Lupin! That is not funny!" She pushed his arm off her waist and stormed off.

Teddy stopped laughing and chased after her. "Oh come on Vic!"

"Well...at least I got my hair!" James sat back down with a smug look on his face. "And I'm shoe in for best man at the wedding."

Ginny scoffed. "Like they'd even let you attend! We're leaving in about an hour, so make sure you have everything. Oh and Jillian, you're staying with us tonight. We're having a special guest."

Jillian smiled, "Okay." she twiddled with her thumbs when the other adults came in the room, making small chat nearby. She watched as everybody lost to James in Exploding Snap, except for Lily of course. She was annoyed with his cocky attitude and everybody's lack of skill. "I'll play you."

James stopped shuffling the deck with his expert technique and smirked. "Okay, Gillespie. How about a bet? If I win, which is highly-likely, you have to go on a date with me. If you loose, it's your pick." he said it nearly a whisper as if he wanted nobody to hear.

She sat down across from his, wiping the ashes from whatever exploded away. "Deal. I'll decided later what I want."

He smirked and set the cards down.

It was an intense match, each had quick reflexes and brains. After a few singed hairs and a burnt arm, James had won. He collected the cards into a neat deck and set them aside, getting up as he did so. "I won."

"No really," Lily exclaimed. "So Jillian, if you had won what would you make him do?"

"She'd make him do her, obviously!" said a voice from behind.

All the heads turned to a strawberry blonde girl standing in the doorway. She had bright green eyes and lightly dusted freckles on her silky pale skin. She could easily be a leprechaun if she wasn't five seven.

"Tegan!" Jillian leaped up from her seat and bear hugged the girl. "Why are you here?!"

"Gee, thanks. I guess I should leave then..." she laughed and walked over to the group of teens. "I escaped from Greenland and stole away in this fat guys luggage only to be sent to Scotland instead. But back to earlier. What would you make him do besides yourself?"

Jillian smacked her upside the head. "Shut up." she scowled. "I hadn't decided."

"Ah T-Quill, always the joker," James said, lazily slinging an arm around her. "I say we take a stroll around Diagon Alley with Fred and maybe Gillespie. If she's into having fun."

Jillian huffed, crossing her arms. "I have fun!" she exclaimed.

This caused many heads to turn.

"Okay, let's go tomorrow at eleven." he shifted his arm so it rested on the couch and ran a hand through his hair.

The group began a round of wizards chess when it was time to leave. They all headed back to the Potters and settled for bed, which wasn't likely. When Harry and Ginny had gone up for the night, the gang had headed out to play a game of quidditch. They divided into teams, with much arguing from James and Lily, and started. Since it was such a small group, they only had one person per position.

James had chosen: Fred for beater, Jillian for keeper, and Albus for seeker. While Lily had chosen: Victoire for seeker, Tegan for beater, and Teddy for chaser. The match lasted fairly long, mostly since it

was night and the snitch could barley be seen, but in the end Lily's team had one 210-60.

It was nearly twelve when the gang headed to their respectful rooms for the night.

"So Tegan how'd you really get here?" Jillian asked, brushing her golden locks. "You're mum would never let you leave a vacation!"

"Well actually she's on her way to America for business and I guess she didn't want to drag me with," Tegan answered. "But in all fairness, I'm rather happy to be left behind. Sure America is great but it's so boring be stuck in a hotel instead of exploring."

Jillian nodded, setting the brush on the hand-carved vanity. The room they were staying in was technically Tegan's since she stayed here a lot. Mostly because her mum traveled a lot and left her with the Potters or her family. "So, any hot Greenland boys?"

Tegan burst into laughter. "I wish. They were all ugly and covered head to toe in snow gear. I would rather stay in England where the boys are very hot. I mean, we take them for granted! I never missed England so much." She fell back into the bed sighing. "So, what's up with you and James? All that tension must mean great sex."

"TEGAN!" she exclaimed.

"What? I'm just saying what everyone's thinking." She shrugged and toyed with her hair. "You should go out with James. You two would be so cute! Jotter, or maybe Jiles!" Jillian rolled her eyes. "Oh come on you know you like the thought of his arm around you, him kissing you, him hugging you, him holding your hand and all that jazz."

Tegan smirked when Jillian blushed and covered her face. Jillian buried her head in the blankets and groaned. "Okay, so maybe I do like him! But all does is ask me out and then awkwardly stare at me or ignore me. I don't even think he likes me like that. He's probably more into one of his brunette girls."

"Oh my Godric! I'm positive James hasn't even liked seventy-five percent of the girls he has ever dated! He just dates to date, but he's really a sweet guy on the inside. Stupid Lucy broke his heart after a year and so they're just rebounds."

"Well gee, maybe I'm rebound number one hundred-eight! I don't want my heart broken by another jerk."

"So, how's the bet going?" Fred asked, tossing a quaffle up and down.

"Pretty good, but you know, maybe we can just call off the bet," James said, running a hand through his hair.

"Why, is Little Jamie afraid of losing ten galleons because Jillian won't go out with him?" He mock pouted and dodged the pillow thrown his way. "Come on, do you really fancy her? Is that it?"

"Erm...no." He turned away, heading towards the bathroom to brush his teeth.

On the other side of the hall, Jillian and Tegan were eavesdropping on the boys. "Jillian, they're talking about you! See, fate has brought you and James together!" Jillian scowled at her, but leaned against the door anyways.

"Ha! I knew it. You'd fall for her!" Fred exclaimed, smirking.

"I haven't!" James angrily squirted the toothpaste onto his brush and vigorously scrubbed his teeth. "So shut up!"

"Well then why were you staring at her all night? It's sorta obvious. Plus she was your first pick in quidditch." He leaned against the door frame, arms crossed. "Sure she's good but I'm way better." Jillian scoffed. "You picked me second! Best mate my arse. Bros before hoes since we were eleven!"

"It's Gillespie! I've known her since I was like five and we've been enemies since I broke her doll and she snapped my broom! But now...now she's all gorgeous. She's so confident and knows what she wants in life. I don't even know what I'm wearing tomorrow! She's got a wicked sense of humor, I see her laugh all the time, even though she tries to hide it. She's so smart too, and really kind to everyone. Even the Slytherins. And she smells like raspberries. I like raspberries."

"James Sirius Potter you have it bad."

8. Chapter 8: Diagon Alley

"Rise and shine!" a voice shouted, bursting through the door.

Tegan was sprawled across the queen sized bed on her stomach, her head buried in the fluffy pillows and a pool of blankets at her feet. Jillian, on the other hand, was laying on a bunch of decorative pillows with one blanket that barley covered her legs. Neither of them moved when Fred had barged in.

"James, mate, I think they're unconscious." He walked over the Tegan, lifting her arm and letting it drop beside her. "Yup, did they drink last night?"

James bent down on his knees and brushed Jillian's hair. "They don't smell of alcohol, and Jillian doesn't drink. She never drank at any Gryffindor parties or at family events."

"So it's Jillian again?" Fred wagged an eyebrow suggestively and laughed. "When do you reckon they'll wake up?"

James shrugged, standing and running a hand through his hair. "I'm not sure. Tegan likes to sleep though. We can wake them later when we go to Diagon Alley. It's only nine-thirty."

The two boys headed out the door, shutting it softly and heading down the stairs. The smell of pancakes hurried the boys pace and they raced to the kitchen. Lily, Albus, and Ginny were already seated and eating.

"Pancakes!" the two exclaimed, grabbing themselves a stack.

Ginny rolled her eyes. "Save some for the girls when they wake," she said. "It's like I'm housing pigs!"

The boys shrugged and shoveled the food into their mouths, pleasing their growling stomachs. A light conversation started when Harry entered with an owl treat. "Morning," he said. "Anything going on today kids?"

"I think they're all going to Diagon Alley," Ginny answered. "I might take a spin on my broom with all the free time I have."

"Mum, are you sure?" James teased, "You're not as young as you used to be."

Ginny put her cup down, raising an eyebrow at him. "Dory, you don't have to do the dishes."

The house elf turned around, shocked. "But Master Ginny, Dory must serve!"

Ginny sighed, "Would you vacuum the office for me then?" Dory gave a warm smile and headed off to vacuum. "James, when everyone is done, you're doing the dishes." She stacked hers on top of his now empty plate and smiled, "You can start with this." James gaped at his mother, "What? I'm too old to do the dishes."

"Mum, you know I'm messing! You're young and fit, and you can still fly like a pro!"

Harry snickered from across the room. "Alright, when are you leaving?"

Fred shrugged, "Maybe around eleven when the girls are up."

Upstairs, Jillian awoke on the floor, the blanket over her shoulders. She hadn't remembered sleeping on the ground or putting the blanket back on after she had kicked it off. She sat up, running a hand through her hair, cracking her neck as well. She saw Tegan fast asleep in the center of the bed; she must've been pushed off in the middle of the night. "Shoot!" she exclaimed. It was already ten-thirty and they had planned for Diagon Alley at eleven. She gently shook her best friend, then shook her more forcibly. "T, don't make me regret this." She took the flowers out of a vase on the nightstand and dumped it on her, drenching her in the ice cold water.

Tegan screamed bloody murder and leaped out of the previously warm bed. "What the hell Jillian!" she screamed. "Ever heard of an alarm?"

Jillian just laughed, and dried the bed with a flick of the wand. "Oh come on, a tornado couldn't have awoken you! I'm surprised that even did."

Tegan scowled, looking for her wand. "Whatever, I'm taking a shower." She grabbed a stack of clothes and headed for the bathroom across the

hall.

Jillian had showered the previous night, and decided to dress while Tegan was gone. She heard the water stop just as she finished her makeup. "Don't you look spiffing!" she said as Tegan walked in. "Oh, ignoring me now? Okay, I suppose I'll just have a conversation on my own. Hello. _Hi_. I'm Jillian. _Oh my God, that's my name too_! My best friend is ignoring me right now. _No way - mine too_! Yeah she's pissed because I woke her up. _Wow_. I know right!"

Tegan stifled a chuckle and continued to ignore her. "Pass the brush," she said curtly after five minutes in silence.

"I'm sorry, did you say something?" Jillian smirked, cupping a hand around her ear. "I must be hearing things. I'm heading downstairs, I'll see you in a few. Hopefully my imaginary friend Jill, that's her nickname, will keep me company until then." She grabbed her wand before shutting the door and slowly descending down the staircase to the awaiting Potter family.

It was quite a sight when she had reached the kitchen. Ginny was yelling at James, who was soaked from waist down with what looked like syrup and flour, was scrubbing the dishes with a oversized towel then drying them with his t-shirt. Fred was smearing soapy water around the entire floor with a mop and he too was covered in maple syrup. The floor was covered in puddles mixed with syrup and butter and various bubbles floated around the house. "Morning," she said, joining the chaos. One foot into the kitchen, she stepped in a gooey mixture of syrup and jam oozing from the stack of plates beside James. "Gross."

"Oh James you're getting your dirty dishes on my clean floors!" Fred exclaimed, running to clean the mess, ending up with him slipping and sliding across the floor. "Merlin, we should just leave the girls to do this."

"Mum, can't we just use magic? Or is this amusing you while you sit their with your feet up drinking coffee that Fred probably spilled soap into."

Ginny stared at her coffee mug considering the most likely true accusation. "You're right, you can wash this as well." She got up and added the mug to James's pile.

"Tsk, tsk, what'd you do know Jamsey?" Tegan teased. "No, wait, let me guess! I bet you said something offensive, blew something up, and Fred ruined it even more with his idioticness."

"Called mum old and then crashed into a stack of dishes," Albus said. "Then Fred tripped over himself and pulled down the table runner and spilled everything onto the floor."

James sneered at his younger brother and whacked his back with a wet towel. "Sod off. Don't you have a date with Louis?"

When Ginny had gone upstairs, Albus threw a sponge at his head. James dodged it, flinging his wet towel in the air like nunchucks. It went on for about five minutes until Lily had interfered with a bucket of water to each of their head. "Serves you right! You got my clothes all wet, prats!"

"You got my floors wet!" Fred exclaimed.

"Fred!" Tegan screamed. He had knocked over his bucket of water onto her shoes. "These are brand new, prat!"

James smirked, "Consider them worn-in." He dodged a flying pancake and it hit Albus square in the chest.

A full fight began, food flying, water splashing everywhere, and people falling left, right, and center. Jillian just watched in shock until James ran behind her using her as a shield. His head peeked over her shoulder and he moved her to block Albus. "You wouldn't hurt a girl, would you Al?"

Lily had jumped onto Albus's back while he was distracted and pinned him down. James had dog piled on top of his siblings, Fred tripping on top of them. Tegan stared at Fred who was trying to pull her down. She grabbed Jillian's arm, dragging her with. "If I go down, you're coming too!"

They were all one pile of chaotic teens laughing at one another.

"What the hell happened?" Ginny screeched. "I leave for five minutes and this happens?"

James was first to speak, "I finished the dishes Mum!"

She stared at the wrecked kitchen, the dishes stacked in a neat pile, not entirely cleaned or dry. The floors were semi-cleaned but the puddles remained. The broken dishes were cleaned but the pancakes were still stuck on the ceiling. "Good enough, go clean up and get out. I'll just have Dory clean this up." she sighed, chucking as she left the group.

"Who's on top?" Albus asked, gasping for breath.

"I am," Jillian said, sliding off Tegan, helping her up.

One by one they peeled off each other and headed up to shower. Jillian and Tegan just rested on the couch, both dry and syrup-free. They were laughing and chatting when James joined them, shirtless. "Ha, ha, very funny Quill," he said, mock laughing. "Where'd you put my shirts?"

"Me!" Tegan gasped. "I can't believe you'd even accuse me of shirt theft! I would never step into James Potters room, let alone go through your clothes. I for one do not appreciate accidentally opening an underwear drawer."

"I'll ask Lily." He glared at Tegan, still not quite believing her. He smiled at Jillian before heading back up to stairs to interrogate Lily.

A few minutes later Fred came down, also accusing Tegan for his missing shirts. She played victim again and he left just as James had.

When he was gone, Jillian turned to her. "You stole their shirts just

so they could come down shirtless?"

"Well duh! It's obvious you were drooling over him, which is why I did it! Well Fred was mostly for my entertainment, but James was just for you. I couldn't care less about his problems or features. It's not like he's ugly and if you aren't going to make a move I will for you! Either you will go on a date with him and see he isn't all that awful or you can forever silently dream about him. Jillian raised an eyebrow in confusion. "_Oh James! Yes, yes James! Oh Gods James!"_ Jillian slapped a hand over her mouth knowing exactly what she was talking about now. Under her hand, Tegan smirked. "Did you know you moan in your sleep?" Jillian blushed profusely while Tegan rolled on the floor laughing. "Oh, come on, you don't expect me not to tease you about it!"

"So even if I did like him, which I don't, it's not like he honestly likes me too."

"You're kidding right? You don't see how he looks at you or acts around you?"

"Like a prat?"

"He obviously likes you Jillian. You're just too stubborn to see it and he's too stubborn to put his pride away and just be nice."

"He's different...he's not the usual prude he always is. He's sweet, really, when he's not goofing off with his friends and pranking people. I do admit he's funny, extremely loyal, caring, and good looking. I saw him help that kid by Gringotts after a few kids ganged up on him. He was so kind and genuinely nice to the kid. He smells nice too, like pine and apples. That's what I smelled in the Amortentia, pine, apples, and a the wood of my broomstick. I dunno, if I said I think I fancied him would you call me insane?"

Tegan smirked, "Nope. I'd call you hopelessly in love!"

"Here," James said, handing Jillian an ice cream cone from Fortescue's. "Mint-chocolate chip. I didn't know what you'd want but it's my favorite so I figured you'd like it." He gave her a genuine smile and stared into her blue orbs. When she took it, he grinned wider and went off to tell Fred.

She took a lick. It was her favorite as well, but she'd never admit that to him. His ego was already big enough.

The group had gone everywhere, occasionally running into a friend or two. James had been aimlessly flirting with Jillian but she just told him off or ignored his proposals for a date. Tegan was beginning to get mad and pulled Fred aside. "Tell James to knock it off!" she exclaimed. "He's scaring her away!"

"I can't really tame the lion when he's after the prey." Tegan smacked his chest. "Alright, alright! I'll talk to James. Wait, I'll just get Teddy to do it!"

"Teddy?" Tegan turned around and saw Teddy walking out of a jewelry store. "Ah."

James was already talking to him, his arm resting on Lily's shoulder.

Teddy was showing them something but put it away quickly after. Fred sauntered over to them and told Lily to leave for "guy talk". "So Teddy, I need your help." Teddy nodded for him to continue. "So James here has a little crush on our very own Jillian Gillespie." The three whipped their heads to the blonde sitting with a stray cat beside Flourish and Blotts with Lily. "But he's being a dick and is scaring her away with all his please for a date and cheesy pick up lines. Quill said she likes him but I find that very hard to believe because all she's done is turn him down."

"Hey!" James exclaimed. "She likes those pick up lines."

Teddy rolled his eyes. "Knock it off," he lightly slapped the back of his head. "One, stop asking her out. Ignore her for a bit. Be nice but if she says something answer calmly, like okay, sure, sounds great. Two, stop putting your arm around her so much. Maybe do it like when you do it to Lily all chill and stuff, and just be yourself. It's obvious you turn into a git when you're around her. But then again you're always a git." Teddy laughed and slung an arm around his godbrother. "I'll see you around. Vic will kill me if I don't come back with the rings. See you later!" With that, he apparated out.

"What the hell was that?" James asked, turning to Fred.

"An intervention," Fred answered. "You better listen because Tegan said Gillespie might actually like you! Which means the bet could still be on."

"No, I don't want to do a bet anymore. I like her and I don't want her to find out."

"Well good luck getting her. She's pretty pissed at you after you accidentally shoved her into those kids."

"Sod off." James scowled and walked over to the quidditch supply shop.

"How about we play truth or dare?" Tegan suggested as the four sat at the Three Broomsticks. "I'll go find a bottle." A minute later she came back with an empty firewhisky bottle. "I'll go first." She spun the bottle and it landed on James. He picked dare, of course. "I dare you to go over to that girl whose staring at you and tell her you have STD."

James glared but none the less got up and walked over to the girl. He put his arm on his shoulder and started hitting on her. He said something inaudible and she screamed before running out of the restaurant. He smirked and walked back over to them. "My turn." It landed on Fred who also picked dare. "Go propose to Rosie and profess how much you love her as loudly as possible. And don't take no for an answer."

Fred got up and walked over to Madame Rosmerta's daughter, Rosie. "I have an announcement!" he shouted and got on one knee, pulling out a candy ring from George's joke shop. "Rosie, ever since I lay my eyes on you when I was eleven I have forever fallen in love with your beautiful chocolate brown eyes and the way you twitch your nose when a drunk guy comes near you. Will you make me the happiest seventeen year old and take my hand in marriage?"

She rolled her eyes. "Fred, get out," she said wiping down the bar.

"What about all those letters I sent you for three hundred-sixty five days! I wrote you every day of the year."

"You didn't write me, silly boy."

"I did!" he got up abruptly when she started to move down the bar. "It isn't over, and it still isn't!" She put a hand on her hip and pursed her lips. "This is the part where you leap in my arms and snog me senseless." She didn't move. "Alright, have a good day!" He laughed on his way outside, motioning for the group to follow.

They sat at Fortescue's again and continued. "Jillian a truth?" Fred smirked. "Have you ever thought of kissing James?"

Jillian blushed. "Erm...no."

"Lies!" Fred exclaimed. Jillian was a bit taken back and glared at him. "Fine, if you won't answer honestly then I suppose you'll have to do a dare. I dare you to kiss James."

She sat there in thought. She had thought of kissing James, playing with his sexy hair and his perfect lips on hers, but immediately shook the thought. But in that moment she stared in disgust at Fred. James hid a grin but stopped when he saw Jillian. "I don't want to kiss her!" he said. "Let's head back, I think mum wanted us home for dinner."

"James, it's only three," Tegan pointed out.

"You know how she gets."

Jillian still sat in shock. _Was she so horrible that he didn't want to kiss her? _she thought. _Sure she didn't want to kiss him right then and there, but was she so repulsive that he wouldn't even think about kissing her? He had told a girl he had freaking STD. _She was brought out of her thoughts when Tegan shook her. "What? Sorry." She pushed in her chair and walked back with the group to find Lily and Albus. "Potter, can I ask you something?" The boy nodded and slowed his pace letting Tegan and Fred walk ahead. "Am I... that repulsive?"

His eyes widened, thinking of how quickly he reacted during truth or dare. "No!" he exclaimed, a little too loudly. "Erm...you're beautiful!"

"Then why wouldn't you want to kiss me?"

"It's not that I didn't, it's just that I saw how much you didn't want to kiss me and I didn't want to make you uncomfortable. Fred's a prat. Believe me, I would've kissed you."

Jillian smiled, then blushed when she caught him staring. "It's not that I didn't want to kiss you," she said quietly. "I was just shocked."

James didn't believe what he had heard. Jillian wanted to kiss him?

He was grinning ear to ear, staring down at her. "Really?" She nodded. "The offer's still on the table, you know." He winked at her and she laughed. "So does Tegan like Fred or something?"

"I'm pretty sure but she's just waiting for him to make a move. Wait," she pulled him gently behind a plant and pulled her wand out. Fred and Tegan's hands were soon stuck together when they got close enough.

"JAMES!" Tegan screamed, trying to pry her hand away from Fred.

Jillian laughed with James put her wand away.

"Jillian Gillespie actually doing magic for fun!" James said with an amused face. "Who knew!"

"Shut up! I have fun!" James raised an eyebrow. "What? I'm not all about my studies and stuff. Sure I don't get drunk like you and your mates but I do go out believe it or not."

"Well I'll just wait until I see it with my own eyes. Come one, Quill's going to have a fit if we don't come back." He took her hand and guided her back to their friends, dropping her hand when they came into eyesight.

Jillian frowned slightly at the empty feeling in her hand. She liked having James's hand in hers, but shrugged the feeling away. The rest of the day James hadn't said any corny lines or tried to ask her out. He was just himself again, slightly annoying but actually fun. Jillian enjoyed time with him, for the first time. She told Tegan all about it that night when she unstuck her from Fred.

"See!" Tegan exclaimed in joy. "I told you you'd fall head over heels for him and I can see that you have Jillian Marlene Gillespie!"

"Whatever, he's still Prat Potter."

"But Hot Prat Potter."

Jillian turned the lamp off and rolled her eyes. "Night."

"Goodnight Mrs. Potter."

9. Chapter 9: Camping

"So Gillespie, my parents wanted to know if you wanted to come on our annual camping trip," James said, running a hand through his hair.

She stared at him skeptically, expecting him to say some cheesy line or to ask her out again, but he didn't. He just stared at her awaiting an answer. "Sure," she said. "I'd love to go."

James brightened up, "Great! Lily's bringing along Dominique and Victoire is coming so I suppose you'll have some girls to be with." He stuffed his hands in his pockets and stared at the ground. "Quill couldn't come because her mum whisked her away on some back to school

spree in France."

Jillian nodded, knowing that Tegan was leaving for the week. "When is it?"

"Friday through Sunday of next week. Sorry for the late notice, mum didn't know your parents would be with the Minister in the states."

Jillian nodded. "Alright, I guess I'll see you later then?" he nodded and slowly walked back over to his house. She stared at him, arm folded. Things had never been awkward for them, that is until the day at Diagon Alley. He was shy around her alone, but cocky and amusing with his friends and Tegan. Now she was spending all weekend with him and the Potters, no Weasley family members or annoying friends to pester her. _Godric what did I get into? _she thought._

"So, are you going to ask her out?" Fred asked as James packed for the weekend. "Oh come on! You've been nothing but a prat to her and now you're suddenly a shy puppy? Get in the game mate!"

"Look, I don't want to ruin things with her. We're on first name basis and she's actually being nice to me! I can't screw it up by asking her out. She thinks she's a conquest and once I shag her she'll be done for."

Fred rolled his eyes. "Is she?"

"NO!" James blushed at his sudden outburst. "I really like her, I do, and I just don't want to ruin my chance."

Down the street, Rose had come over for a last visit before Jillian left. "Wow, an exotic date into the woods!" she teased. "Why won't you just admit you like James Potter? We all know he fancies you, he's made it quite obvious."

"Because why would he take such a sudden interest in me?" Jillian exclaimed. "He probably only likes me because I didn't like him at first. I didn't melt into his arms and shag him. Guys like him only want one thing from a girl and I'm not that kind of person."

Rose rolled her eyes. "You really think that lowly of him?"

"I dunno." She zipped up her backpack and sat on her bed. "I like him, but I'm afraid he's going to break my heart just like Writer."

"Mum, why can't I bring a guest?" Albus complained, trailing after his parents. "James is bringing Jillian and Lily had Dominique and Teddy and Victoire are coming!"

Ginny sighed and turned to her son, "If you can find someone in such short notice, you can bring 'em. Otherwise I don't want to hear a peep out of you."

Albus beamed, and ran into the house. He first thought of Louis, but he was away with his dad to visit Charlie in Romania. He thought of his friends, but they weren't available either. He went to Diagon Alley that afternoon, hoping to see someone he knew but he only found Jillian and Rose, James and Fred somewhere else. He hadn't meant to

eavesdrop but he just happened to stand behind them at Honeydukes.

"You and James better hit it off this weekend," Rose said. "Otherwise I will be very disappointed in you. You've fancied him for half the summer, though you're too stubborn to admit, and he hasn't made a move! Prat."

"Rose, come off it," Jillian said, paying for her chocolate. "If he really fancied me then he'll ask me out soon. It's not like I'm some damsel in distress waiting for Prince Charming to come sweep me off my feet!"

Albus inwardly scowled and fled the building. Jillian Gillespie, one of his childhood friends, falling for James, her enemy and his older brother! James always got what Albus had or wanted, no matter what. His first girlfriend had used him to get to James. His first best friend was scared off by James because he mocked him. James had always been there for Lily whenever she needed him, which is why their bond was significantly better than his and Lily's. He wanted to be a big brother, but she had always preferred James to him. Sure James was a good older brother, when they didn't fight, but he was never there when Albus needed one. James was never prefect, Albus was, but James took all the attention away by becoming Quidditch captain. Only Uncle Percy celebrated with him. James was Gryffindor just like every line of Potter's known and Albus had gotten himself in Slytherin. He wanted nothing more than to be a Gryffindor and James did nothing but tease him with the nickname, "Snakey". Since forever Albus had a crush on Jillian, mostly because she hated James since they'd met. When James wants something, he usually gets it and Jillian was his latest prize. Now, she was falling for him too and that popped the cork off the bottle for him.

From behind, Albus clenched his fists, his face turning red as he bored a hole into his brother's skull. He walked away when they entered the Quality Quidditch Supplies shop and bumped into someone unexpected. He gave her a smirk, much like James would, and extended his hand to her. "Albus Potter."

The brunette rose an eyebrow, questioning him, but shook his hand, "Lucy Campbell."

If James was going to take Jillian, what was stopping Albus from taking Lucy.

"Are you kids ready?" Ginny asked, loading the bags in the car. There was a chorus of 'yes's'. "We're leaving in ten minutes! Albus honey, is your friend coming along soon?"

"Should be," Albus replied, an evil grin on his face.

"Whoa, Albus got a friend to come!" James teased, tossing his bag to his mum. "That's new."

Albus scowled, "As a matter of fact James, I have plenty of friends. They're just out of town."

"Sure. That's what they all say."

"Lay off it James," Harry said, passing the brothers. "Come on Al,

we've got to get going before it gets too late! Will somebody go get Jillian? We need her bag and herself."

"I'll go," James said, heading to her house. He stopped on her lawn, staring at the window. "Rapunzel let down your hair!" he shouted. No response. "I guess I'll do it the old fashioned way." He picked up a pebble and chucked it at the window. "Oi Jillian! Get your bum down here so we can leave already!" He threw another pebble at her window and waited for her to open it.

She did eventually, her hair in a towel. "Well excuse me for not wanting to open the window starkers!" she shouted back.

"You know, I don't think that would've been a problem." He flashed a cheeky grin and dodged a shoe. "Oh how wound me, Princess!"

She rolled her eyes, suppressing a laugh. "I'll be down in a minute. Wait for me."

Albus was brought out of his thoughts by his father. "Al, are you sure your friend is coming? We need to leave."

Albus nodded, walking towards the car. He noticed a lock of brown hair behind a tree, a hand motioning for him to join. "Great your here!"

"Please, I came for James," she snapped. "So are you going to introduce me?"

He took her hand and brought her to the rest of the group. "Mum, dad, my guest is here." He put an arm around Lucy and watched their reactions. "Lucy, I'm sure you know my family by now."

James looked up, staring at the girl who had broken his heart. He had gotten over her by now, completely infatuated with Jillian, but it hurt to see her under Albus's arm. "What are you playing at?" he asked, almost menacingly. "Campbell?"

"Oh Jamsey!" she squealed. "Great to see you again. But you see, I'm far over you know. I like younger men, like Alby." She threw her arms over his shoulders and kissed his cheek. "So, if you don't mind me, I'll go get my bags."

"Bags?" Ginny questioned. "It's only a week Lucy."

"Mrs. Potter, a girl can never have too many things. It's only 5 bags." She skipped over to the tree and pulled out a luggage, two smaller duffle bags, a drawstring bag, and a large purse. "Thanks!" she dropped them at her feet and went back to Albus.
>"So, where are we glamping?"<p>

"Camping," Jillian corrected.

Lucy narrowed her eyes at the blonde behind James. "I see you've found yourself a new project Jamie. She's got good complexion but really? A blonde. You could do so much better."

"Jillian is perfectly wonderful," James snapped. "Albus, if you want her have her. Just know I won't be there when she breaks your smitten heart." He stared into Albus's eyes before turning around and

slamming the car door.

"Albus," Jillian started.

She was cut off by him, "Don't pity me. I like Lucy and she likes me." He stormed away, Lucy at his heels who was also glaring at her. "Thanks Lucy," he whispered. "I hope this works out as planned."

Jillian sat in the backseat with James, closing the window with the button. "James, I'm sorry about Albus. I know it must be hard to see her again after what she did to you."

"It's fine, I just don't want Al to be cheated on by her. I'm completely over her by the way." He sat up, meeting her eyes. "I really like you Jillian, you know?" She nodded, swallowing the lump in her throat. "You're not some quest like you think you are. I don't want to hump and dump." She couldn't help but blush. "You really are the brightest witch I know and you're drop dead gorgeous. I could stare at you all day if I could! Not only that but your sweet and kind to everyone and you can see past my cocky arrogantness." Jillian smiled, showing all her pearly whites. "You do that. Just smiling and it makes me go crazy! So I guess what I wanna know is...will you go out with me?"

"I-I like you too James," Jillian uttered, making complete eye contact. "So yes."

He stared at her, trying to read her eyes. "Really?" She nodded. His grin was over the moon. He started to move closer, but stopped and looked away.

"James, kiss me."

"What?"

"I know you want to. And I want you too."

He leaned down slowly, hazel meeting blue, and closed the small gap between them and pressed his lips gently against hers. He sort of freaked when she didn't move, but relaxed when she kissed him back with much eagerness. His hands rested around her waist, pulling her closer and her hand moved up his neck and wove their way in his hair. They broke apart abruptly when the car door opened. James blushed and bit his lip. "Hullo Lily, Dom," his voice hoarse.

"It's about time," Lily muttered.

Albus had been distant from the family when they got there, only talking to Lucy. He noticed something going on between James and Jillian, but pushed it away in hopes that Jillian still detested him. He made it quite obvious he was trying to rile James up, kissing Lucy and doing all sorts when he was around. He just shrugged and walked away most of the time though.

James and Jillian had decided to keep their new relationship a secret. They weren't ready to tell anyone yet, and made Lily and Dominique swear not to breath a word. They'd go everywhere together, secretly finding places to talk, snog, and hangout alone.

James and Albus hadn't said a word to each other but one night, they blew up.

"You only like Jillian because of that stupid bet with Fred and it's going to end the same way like Lucy!" Albus exclaimed. "She's going to leave you for someone better."

James glared at him. "Don't start about Lucy or even dare start about Jillian when you haven't even dated one girl! I know you like Jillian, it's pretty obvious when you come along bringing my bloody ex-girlfriend camping with us! Did you really think I would leave her for Lucy! Did you really think Jillian would fall for you, Albus Potter, baby brother, good boy, and perfect prefect? Do you honestly think you could rile me up by snogging Lucy? Of course you did! You think your better than everyone else because you've got brains and you're different. You honestly think you can size up to me!" Jillian put a gently hand on his arm, trying to calm him down. She felt him relax under her touch and gave a faint smile.

Seeing Jillian comfort James riled Albus up even more. He was livid, his cheeks turning red and her ears smoking. "Well at least the girls I date aren't after my money and dating the famous Harry Potter's son! I'm just Albus, the boy in Slytherin, not the James Sirius Potter. You're known as the first born of The Boy Who Lived Twice and a famous ex-Holyhead Harpie star chaser. You were named after two amazing war heroes, James Potter and Sirius Black! Even Lily was named after Lily Evans-Potter the one who saved Dad from dying twice! I was named after an old Headmaster and a double spy who most of Hogwarts hated anyways!

Lucy only wanted you for you're title and I don't even know what Jillian sees in you. You didn't even start calling her by her first name until the middle of summer! Which is what, sixteen and a half years! Sure you're an O student, but really your lazy, arrogant, selfish, annoying, and overly cocky. You walk around thinking you're all that when in reality you just annoy people with your smirk and attitude. Sure your quidditch captain, but you know you'll never be as good as Teddy was or live up to dad and Grandpa James. You tease people and date around like girls are flowers you can just pick and throw away when they get old! You have no respect for anybody except those in your little bubble of James! Which consists of Fred, Jillian, and Tegan! You'll never live up to your namesake and you'll always be in dad's shadow. At least I'm in Slytherin and I barley see you, let alone associate with you! I'm glad Lucy dumped you, and Jillian could do ten times better than dating you!"

He took out his wand, ready to hex, but James had pulled his out faster. He gripped his wand, ready to shoot, but Jillian stood between the two. She snatched James's wand and then disarmed Albus. "Expelliarmus!" she shouted. She caught his wand and glared at the two, clenching their wands with her death grip. "It's bad enough you two are fighting, but dueling? Over what. A stupid fight about nothing! Yes Albus brought Campbell here and yes James and I are dating but dueling over it? What are you, five years old! Grow up! And I'm keeping these!"

James sighed, glaring daggers at Albus but walked off towards his tent. Albus just stood there, close to tears. He stalked off, Lucy following closely like a puppy. Jillian waited a moment then walked into the woods, spotting them underneath a little alcove down the

river. She hid, close enough to listen to their conversation but still far enough not to be seen.

"Listen, I don't think this stupid plan is going to work out," Lucy said. "It's obvious Jillian is far from interested in you. The only way I can think of is threatening that bitch, but I doubt she'd be scared."

"Yeah," Albus sighed.

"Guess my work here is done! But I'll be glad to come back anytime to help screw James over."

"Sure. I suppose you can apparate home if you wanted. Thanks for the help."

"Whatever. I'll see you at school mini-James!" The brunette patted his back and skipped over to her stuff and disappeared with a pop.

Jillian frowned, giving Albus a minute before she walked up to him. "Hey." she sat down where Lucy had previously and put a tender hand on his back. "Are you okay?"

"NO," Albus snapped, immediately regretting it. "Sorry, I didn't mean most of the things I said. I was just mad because...because you promised you'd never like him!"

Her brows furrowed, then it hit her. She had promised to never like James that night they had a campfire. "I know I did, but when I said that I hated James for saying those things when he still liked Lucy. I don't blame him, I was a bitch when Writer cheated on me and he was a prat when Lucy cheated on him, but I really like James. I got to know him this summer and I hope that it doesn't ruin our friendship."

Albus sighed, "James gets what he wants."

"James doesn't always get what he wants. Neither do you, but your life is going great! You're a shoe in for Head Boy next year, Captain and star seeker for Slytherin, writing your own story. Yes James tries to be as good as those before him and names sake, but that doesn't mean he needs to prove anything to anyone. He just tries to be the best he can because he feels he needs to - something I learned awhile ago. You said some pretty nasty things and you need to get over this stupid fight. You're amazing, and you will find a girl who loves you. I like James and I can't help it, so I'm sorry if I'm the cause of your anger but I'm not going to stop dating him just because of you. I'll see you later." She got up, dusting off her pants before going to James.

She found him in his tent sulking, thinking over everything Albus had said. Was that how people saw him? he thought. Surly Albus was right, he never lied. He heard the tent zipper open and Jillian stepped inside, his heart beating a little faster.. "Hey," he said quietly. "Is what Albus said true? About me being lazy and arrogant and all that?"

Jillian looked up at him, playing with his hair. "No. You're way more than that. All that stuff I said you were before was just me being

angry at you. But since forever I've known you're confident, a little too, and intelligent, funny, extremely good looking, and an amazing quidditch player! Sure you were a prat before but that was childish you. Before you matured. You're James Sirius Potter, the one and only. Nobody to live up to. And you have me, which makes you a thousand times better." She leaned up and kissed his cheek. "Don't be upset about Albus, he was just jealous."

James smirked, "Good looking, eh?"

"_Extremely_."

The rest of the week James and Jillian still kept their relationship quiet, hoping Albus wouldn't spill the beans. He and James never apologized and hadn't talked the entire time since their fight. Only glancing at each other now and then or asking to pass the food. They shared a tent, but usually they just fought on when to turn the lantern out.

It was the last night and Albus and James were at it again, fighting over how James got way more tent space than Albus. Jillian, in the tent next door, had had enough. She grabbed her pillow and stormed into their tent. "Albus, if you don't shut up I will personally hex you into oblivion! Go sleep in my tent and I'll sleep here. It's obvious one of you will be dead by morning if you keep it up."

Albus opened his mouth to argue, but knew better and took his stuff into Jillian's small tent.

"Was that the cause? Or did you just want to sleep with me?" James asked smirking.

"Eh, a little bit of both." She put her pillow right beside James and hugged him under the gigantic blanket he had. She hugged him close, taking in his scent of pine and apples she loved. "You smell good."

He smiled, wrapping an arm over her shoulder. "I'd hope I do. I just bathed in a river because mum wouldn't let me transfigure a shower of some sort. Crazy witch thinks we can survive in the wild without any magic!"

Jillian laughed which turned into a yawn. "It must be one in the morning," she said quietly. "Night James."

He lay awake for another half hour, watching her sleep. She looked so peaceful, her even breaths hitting his bare chest and her delicate arms wrapped around his stomach. Her blonde hair was sprawled all over the pillow, but he didn't mind. He loved playing with it, for it was so soft and wavy and smelled so good. He smiled down at her one last time before going into a deep sleep.

"James," Jillian whispered softly. James stirred in his sleep. "Come on James, wake up." He hadn't budged. She slowly climbed on top of him, straddling his waist and tracing his abs with her nail. "James, babe," she said as seducing as she could. "Wake up."

He stirred again trying to move but couldn't with the unknown extra weight. He opened an eye and saw Jillian straddling him, playing with his stomach. "Morning," he said lazily. He flexed his arms behind his

head and stared up at her angelic face.

"Finally," she murmured. "Took you bloody forever to wake up!"

He chuckled, placing his hands on her waist. "I could stay awake forever if I woke up next to you." She smiled and he grinned back, his eyes dropping to stare at her waist. "So are you going to stay on top forever? I don't mind, but I don't think my parents would be too happy."

Jillian laughed, pausing a moment. "I can tell your very happy," she said smirking.

James blushed deeply, staring down at bulge in his shorts. "Erm...sorry about that." He shifted his waist below her and averted his eyes.

She smiled and slowly slid off his mid-section, laying her head beside his. "Well your mum is packing up the bags. I heard her talking to your dad. I don't think anyone knew I was in here so I should probably head out."

James frowned, brushing a piece of hair out of her face. "You sure?" She bit her lip and nodded. "Alright, I'll come see you in a bit." He kissed her cheek before watching her crawl out of his tent. He stared down at his pants. "You just love to ruin everything."

James came out of his tent, freshly clothed in new jeans and a white t-shirt. With a flick of his wand, everything was quickly folded and packed neatly in two bags. "Morning mum, dad," he said picking up the bags. "Teddy, Victoire." He greeted everyone cheerily, except Albus that is. He just nodded in acknowledgement.

Ginny and Harry still didn't know what was going on between the two but decided to leave it. Around noon everyone was all packed and ready to head back to the Potters. They all crammed into Ginny's borrowed mini-van and drove back in silence all the way home.

10. Chapter 10: Hogwarts

Things escalated quickly since the trip. James and Jillian still kept their relationship a secret from everyone. They'd fought about James's bet with Fred, but quickly made up about it and ended up snogging in the forest. They still hadn't told anybody, except Lily and Dominique and Albus. They just hung out like normal and fought when people suspected things. They had received their Hogwarts letters a week after they returned and James had been given title of Quidditch Captain again and Head Boy by McGonagall and Jillian was given Head Girl which was no surprise.

It was September first and everyone gathered at Platform 9 3/4 for their goodbyes. While everyone was distracted, James pulled Jillian far enough away and kissed her, pushing her lightly against the pillar. She instinctively put her arms around his neck and deepened the kiss until their was a cough. They jumped apart, both blushing at the blue haired boy staring at them with the trademark Potter smirk.

"Well, well, well," Teddy said, a playful smirk on his face.

"Looks like little Jamesy has found himself a girlfriend!" Victoire said, joining Teddy. "You remember a situation like this Ted?" The soon to be Auror nodded. "Hmmm...I can't wait to tell everyone that James and Jillian are snogging behind the platform!"

James blushed and stuffed his hands in his pockets. "Erm...I was seeing her off?"

"Nice try James, but karma is a bitch. See you at Christmas!" Teddy chuckled and took Victoire's hand, walking off too see off the rest of the Potter-Weasley clan.

"Well I suppose they were bound to find out sooner or later," Jillian said. "I guess we'll tell my parents at Christmas then. I'm not sure about the Hogwarts population though."

James nodded in agreement. "Well, let's board before my family come with a million questions." He guided her onto the train and into the compartment with all of their friends and a few other people. She dropped his hands when they entered and they sat across from each other. "How's the rest of your summer been?"

"Oh boring," Tegan said, staring between the two. "How was the camping trip? Jillian was very vague about it. Only said something about Albus and Lucy hooking up."

"It was bloody fantastic," James said with a knowing grin. "Well, I got Head Boy." The entire compartment began laughing, except for Jillian and himself. "No, seriously." He held up the Head Boy badge and showed it to the lot.

"McGonagall must've been drunk to actually allow you as Head Boy!" Tegan exclaimed, staring at the badge. "Wait, your serious?" He nodded. "Wow. I never thought she'd be into drinking. Well looks like you'll be spending more time with ol' Jilly! She got Head Girl you know."

"Really?" he pretended to act surprised. "Well more privacy I suppose." His waggled an eyebrow and smirked.

"Sod off Potter," she said, rolling her eyes. "Well, we have to get to a Head's meeting, we'll see you later then?" The others nodded and watched them go off.

"Ten galleons they're secretly dating," Fred said turning to the group.

"Please, Jillian doesn't like James," Alice Longbottom said. "She's all gaga for Beau Hampton in Ravenclaw."

"No, that's just you," Tegan commented.

The compartment went back and forth decided what was going on between James and Jillian. Everyone could tell they weren't the same but nobody could tell what was different. They let it be until the two returned, and Jillian dropped his hand when they entered.

"Hey guys!" she said, walking to Tegan. "Glad to see you in your robes. I should go change as well. I'll be back."

"I'll come with," Tegan said getting up. "I don't want to be alone with those gits." The two girls left for the bathrooms at the end of the train. Jillian went in to change while Tegan leaned against the compartments. "So Jillian, we tell each other everything, right?"

"Yeah..." Jillian answered skeptically behind the door.

"So you'd tell me if you were dating someone."

Jillian peeked a head out. "What're you getting at Tegan?"

"Are you dating James?"

Jillian blushed and closed the door, putting on her skirt and socks. "Well...I was going to tell you later on but your my best friend. James and I agreed to tell everyone together and it was killing me on the inside not to tell you or Rose. But yes, we are. Since the camping trip." She came out, fully clothed in her Hogwarts uniform. "Is my tie on straight?"

Tegan didn't answer but bear hugged Jillian, then fixed her tie and patted down her robes. "Oh finally!" she exclaimed. "I understand for not telling me but I'll act surprised. So how long has it been...two weeks?"

"About, yeah. I really wanted to tell you, but James thought it'd be best to tell everyone. Well aside from Lily and Dom who walked in on us -"

"You had sex already!" Tegan exclaimed, receiving many odd glares.

Jillian smacked her upside the head. "Of course not you dolt! I wouldn't just give myself away after a two weeks of dating. They just caught us kissing."

"Snogging?"

"A_ kiss_. And Albus knew because he and James had a huge fight over summer. And Then there's Teddy and Victoire who caught us snogging on the platform...so maybe all the Potter's know by now."

"I understand, but next time something happens I _better_ be first to know!" She linked arms with the blonde and they skipped off to the compartment, stopping outside upon hearing the inside conversation.

Someone, presumably Fred, was pacing back and forth. "James mate, how could you not tell me you got together with Jillian two weeks ago!"

"James, is it true?" Nathan Skiis asked leaning forward. "I mean she's totally fit and all but are you actually dating the bird? I know a lot of guys saying they've shagged her or gotten to second base on a date."

"Well I'm her roommate and I'm pretty sure she's never shagged anyone. Wait! You didn't hear that. But all those rumors Writer

spread are fake, unless she never told me when she was doing more than snogging with Writer," Alice commented.

James made a disgusted face, "I hope they're not true."

"Why did Jamsie want to be the one to deflower her?" Fred mocked with a laugh.

"Sod off Fred."

Jillian and Tegan decided it was a good time and reentered the compartment, all eyes on them. "Mum's ever tell you it's rude to stare?" Jillian said taking a seat. Everyone blushed and turned away, mostly focusing on James now. "So what happened when we were gone?"

"Oh nothing much," Fred mumbled. "So...are you and James like dating now?"

Jillian turned to him. "Yes, we are dating," she turned at Nathan, "no I haven't been shagging around," she turned to Alice, "those rumors are false and I never did it with Writer," she turned back to Fred, "and I already am deflowered."

The others gaped at her. Had she heard the entire conversation? James smirked and scooted over for Jillian to sit under his arm, which she did. "So, that answers that mates."

After about another hour, the scarlet train pulled to a stop and the landing flooded with students. First years went with Hagrid while the rest went into a carriage and were pulled to Hogwarts. James, Jillian, Tegan, and a Fred all went into one while the rest of their friends went into another behind them. It was a soothing ride, no bumps and no detours. Mostly everyone was happy that James and Jillian had gotten together and swore not to tell anyone until they were ready. It would be hard considering most girls fawned over James and sometimes stalked him but Jillian wouldn't have any of it. Any girls staring at him she would get the wrath of her. Whether she was ready to tell or not.

They found their seats in the Great Hall and waited for the first years to come in and be sorted before the feast. However, it took longer than usual. The first years were being delayed because of the Giant Squid and the rest were left to starve.

When they finally came, about a half hour late, it seemed like time froze. Sure it would break and a house would cheer for a new student but the rest was very boring for the older students. When McGonagall came up for her speech Tegan groaned quite audibly. "FEED THE STARVING CHILDREN!" she shouted, ducking right after.

The Great Hall burst into laughter and Gracie was called up to the podium, slightly embarrassed but mostly with confidence.

"If you would like to eat, then you may make the speech for your hungry peers," McGonagall said with a stern face.

Tegan rolled her eyes and turned to the students. "Welcome to Hogwarts or welcome back or whatever. You'll learn magic and stuff and N.E.W.T.S and O.W.L.S are boring as hell. Forbidden forest is off

limits. You'll probably be trampled by centaurs or by Hagird's spiders. Um...best teacher here is Professor Longbottom or Professor Gillespie and of course our very own Headmistress Minnie! Now on with the feast!" The Gryffindors applauded her and some wolf whistled. She clapped her hands and the food appeared on the long wooden tables.

McGonagall sighed and pushed Tegan back to her seat for the rest of the night. "Thank you Miss Quill. Welcome to Hogwarts!" She clapped her hands and the mountain of food appeared before everyone's eyes.

Jillian sat particularly close to James at the feast, some people staring oddly at the usually bickering pair. They entwined their fingers together and held hands under the table sharing secret glances at each other. "So do you think everyone from last year will make the team?"

James shrugged, "No, I'm really considering opening all spots. Except Center chaser, of course. If not, I'm looking for a new keeper, seeker, and new beater. Possibly another chaser since Lily said she was going for seeker but who knows. Maybe even a fresh team. You going to try out for chaser, Jillian?"

"I was thinking of it, but I'd much prefer being a reserve. Like I was last year after poor Lily broke her arm."

Tegan laughed and slung an arm around Jillian's shoulder. "I remember when you subbed! Nearly knocked off your broom thanks to the slimy Slytherins. Thank goodness for James, otherwise you would've been _splat_. Other than that, I say you try out, J!"

Jillian shrugged. "I'll think about it. I might not even have time this year for all the practices with everything going on. I'm starting a tutoring session with a few third years and McGonagall has me on a tight schedule. It's either extra work for a recommendation letter to St. Mungos or play quidditch and possibly play for the Holyhead Harpies."

"What's wrong with the Chuddley Cannons?" James argued.

"Nothing, I just prefer the Holyhead Harpies. You've been spending too much time with your Uncle Ron." He pouted his bottom lip and crossed his arms. "Oh don't be a baby, it's not that I don't like them, I just prefer Holyhead Harpies. Just like how you prefer quidditch to studies."

"Well quidditch is actually useful."

Jillian rolled her eyes and playfully nudged him. He moved to put his arm around her but stopped and scratched his neck instead. She stared up at him and smiled. She knew all he wanted to do was boast to the whole school that she was his but she was grateful he respected her wishes. It'd only been 2 weeks since they had started going out. She wasn't ready just yet. She wanted at least another 2 weeks, or a month. When the feast had finished and everyone headed to their common rooms, Jillian noticed a few odd stares from her and James. But she shrugged it off.

"Jillian!" someone called.

The blonde whipped around at the sound of her name. But it was just a sea of boring faces. Until a small girl began bouncing up and down over the tops of everyone's heads. When the girl reached her, she leaped into a bear hug. "Jillian! You're my new tutor this year, ya know? I've been terrible at keeping my grades in charms and transfiguration. McGonagall assigned you. You of all people! Well, Potter too."

Jillian smiled, but her brows furrowed. "Potter? Tutoring you?"

As if on cue, James popped out of the portrait, "Hey Jillian, Quill wants you...oh sorry I didn't know you were busy."

"Oh it's just a chat. You know Georgia Lanskioni?" He nodded and the short second year waved to him with a warm smile. "She's my new tutor student. And apparently yours as well."

James paled and ran a hand through his hair. "Oh yeah...McGonagall mentioned that but I didn't really want to tell anyone about it. You know, thinking I'm smart and all. Besides, I only agreed because I've babysat Lanskioni since she was like four. And I also train her in quidditch."

The blonde nodded in agreement. "Yeah, he's really much better than Albus. He actually lets me have fun!" She walked over to James and gave him a big hug, a few of her friends behind them practically drooling over him. "Like once, we snuck out at like one AM and just flew around England 'til morning with Lily. Ginny still doesn't know!"

Jillian rolled her eyes. "Of course James would do that."

"Hey, you love sneaking out with me." He gave her a suggestive wink and smirked.

Jillian blushed and turned away. From below, an idiot could tell what had just happened. "You two are dating?" Georgia asked. "That's awesome! I knew you'd eventually date."

"Apparently so does everyone in England," Jillian muttered. "Well, I'll see you around!"

>She gave her a warm smile before disappearing into the common room.<p>

11. Chapter 11: Tryouts

James sat on the bleachers watching players zoom past him. He flew down to the pitch and blew his whistle, all the players flying down to him. "Listen! I've decided all six spots are open to anyone. Even if you're a second year." he winked at Georgia. "All right, I want beaters over there, chasers in front, seekers over there, and keepers lined up over there. I want my beaters in the air first, the rest can warm up with quaffle passes." He flew up with the six other beaters and hovered in the middle of their circle. "Okay. We're releasing two bludgers. You're aiming for the three chasers. No fouls, just enough knock them off their balance." He flew back to the chasers on the ground and loosely selected three. "Just do the weave drill." He blew his whistle and Tegan released the bludgers.

They skyrocketed into the air and the beaters began. They flew after them and whacked. Two fell off their brooms and one dropped the beaters stick. James sighed from above, narrowly avoiding a bludger that whizzed by his ear. "Nevers! Off the pitch!"

The fourth year hung his head and went to get his broken stick. "James, Sir, I'm sorry! I aimed for it and it snapped my bat! I didn't mean for you to almost get beheaded."

James nodded and gave him a pat on the back. "Go get your arm checked by the nurse before you come back out. As for the rest of you, I want more precise hits. Did I ask for barley missing them? NO. I asked to knock them off their brooms!"

After another ten minutes, James called for a water break and let the chasers in the air. He made them do multiple drills, slowly eliminating them on his papers. He sectioned them into 4 teams to go head to head. It was quite obvious he put the best on one team and the worst on the other, the rest just filled in. The chasers were the biggest group, so he slowly moved the players into different teams eventually making two of the best players go head to head. He joined as well, watching to see how well they played as a team. Jillian, being on his of course. "Gillespie, 69!" he shouted. She rolled her eyes at his ridiculous play names but flew below James. When they reached the hoops, James made to shoot at the far left, but dropped it to Jillian who scored in the center. "Nice Jillian!"

After that, he had the keepers go one by one. All fifteen chasers took two turns to try and score against each keeper. Lily flew up against Chase Brooks and James observed closely. Brooks was by far the best in James's books, but Lily was a superior shooter. He had her go last, even though she tried out for seeker. She went for her fake dive to the left and threw it at the right hoop, just enough angle to bounce off the side and into the hoop. A specialty she learned from her mum. But to James's surprise, Brooks blocked it with his fast reflexes and quick speed. He circled Brooks's name and blew his whistle.

"Alright, seekers up!" James shouted. He had two against each other search for the snitch, slowly eliminating them until the best two went against each other. Which happened to be Lily and Alice Longbottom, last years seeker. He marked down their strengths and weaknesses and blew his whistle. "Thanks to all who tried out! I'll have these posted by tomorrow at night by the latest in the commons."

Having showered and redressed in her robes, Jillian walked onto the pitch and twirled the quaffle while waiting for James. "J, you coming to dinner?" Tegan asked fixing her tie.

"Nah, you go ahead. I'll wait for James."

Tegan nodded and ran to catch up with their other friends.

After what seemed like an eternity, James finally emerged from the locker room. "What took so long?" Jillian asked. "I was beginning to think you snuck out to avoid me."

James laughed and wrapped his arm around her. "How could I avoid such

a gorgeous girl?" He kissed her head and the two headed to the castle.

"So any idea of the new team?" James shrugged. "You know, I think you should have Lily be seeker this year. I know you put her down as potential chaser but she can be a reserve chaser."

James sighed. "I don't know. I'll show you my notes after dinner. Don't think I wasn't watching you watch my players."

"Stalker much?" she laughed and kissed his lips before entering the Great Hall to join Tegan and Alice. "Hey guys."

That night, Jillian sat in the commons with James. They sat on the couch hovered over James's messy notes. Jillian took out a fresh sheet of parchment and brainstormed with James.

"Okay, so for sure we know Brooks is our keeper," James said, crossing out the other names. "We also know that I'm chaser." Jillian wrote the names down. "I think Alice should be seeker. She's got longer arms, knows more, and can handle the hits from the Beaters and the fouling Slytherin. I heard Scorpious is going to be the seeker again. He'll murder her!"

"But James, Lily is faster and more flexible. If she could handle the bashes of the bludger at age 12 and defend against 3 other chasers, she can handle it at fifteen. Alice can be a reserve. Lily is the better choice for seeker, even if she does dominate the pitch."

"I need Lily as chaser. But that means you can't be the last chaser because Quill is."

"As hard as I tried, don't think of me. Put her as beater. She tried out for it and I personally think she could do much better there. Last year she was amazing as chaser, but she has more potential there. And besides, she's got the strength. Look at all these names you crossed out! I bet they all snapped their arms just holding up the bat!"

"Okay. So Fred and Quill for beaters?"

"I don't know. You tell me Capt'n." Jillian got up and grabbed her stuff. "I'll see you tomorrow when you decide." She gave him a quick peck before heading up to her dorm.

"So, what spot am I?" Tegan bombarded. "Am I chaser or beater? I know I'm on the team, unless he cut me! Oh my Godric, I'm not on the team. Of course. It makes sense. I tried out for beater and Fred and Nathan will go back to their old spots. Lily and you will be the other two chasers and Alice will be seeker. I'm screwed! Why did I try out for beater? It was so risky and I blew it!" She flopped onto her bed and lay there. Motionless.

"Slow your rolls hun!" Jillian exclaimed. "James's decisions are confidential but I can assure you that you will be apart of the team somehow."

James looked walked slowly to the bulletin board. All eyes were on him and the paper in his hands. He took a deep breath before pinning it up and rushing to the stairs. From the second step, he watched the

faces of all those who tried out. Most were disappointed, but all that mattered was his team. Win or lose some, he wasn't going to destroy Teddy's legend. Teddy was captain in his fifth year 'til his seventh and had won Gryffindor three House Cups in a row. Before him the last captain had lost the seven year streak and was kicked off the team after his first year.

His arms were crossed with a stern face when kids came up to him and complained. He ignored them, and the nasty comments they made about his new team. He kept a straight face even as he watched Alice's face fall, but gave her a look of sympathy. He only smiled when he watched Lily jump up and down. When the room had settled down, James walked down from his post to get some dinner. On his way out, he passed Jillian and Tegan who was antsy to get inside.

"Hey Quill, don't break your arms anytime soon," he said with a smirk.

With that, Tegan raced to the common room. Screams of joy echoed through the castle. "I made beater!" she shouted. "Jillian! I did it! I can't believe it! And you made chaser! Oh this is going to be the best team ever."

Jillian smiled and looked at the paper.

Chaser...James Potter

Chaser...Jillian Gillespie

Chaser...Brendan Wood

Beater...Fred Weasley

Beater...Tegan Quill

Seeker...Lily Potter

Keeper...Chase Brooks

Reserves: Nathan Skiis, Alice Longbottom, Liv Wood

"What a team," Jillian said staring at the names. "Looks like Gryffindor will win the cup yet again. Hey TQuill, I'll catch up with you later, yeah?"

Tegan didn't even hear what she had said, so Jillian slowly backed out of the room and ran to the Great Hall. It was pretty empty, considering dinner wasn't for another half-hour. But she found James sitting there alone on the bench staring at his empty plate. "Hey Capt'n," she said taking a seat by him. "You know, I was pretty shocked you actually made Lily seeker."

"James!" a voice shouted. The two whipped their heads to face the small redhead running down the aisle. "Thank you! I'm going to write mum and dad!"

"No problem kiddo, but if we lose because of you, you're back on chaser," James said, only half teasingly. "Now scram. I want to hang with my girl."

"Mhm, keep it PG." She gave him a quick hug and ran out of the hall. On the way out she crashed into two bodies. She looked up and frowned. "Albus, Scorpious."

"Hey Lily," Scorpious said, breaking the tension. "Congrats on making seeker. Just know I won't go easy on you."

"Well I guess this year you'll have some real competition. See you around!" She ran off down the corridor leaving the two boys standing there.

Albus scowled at Scorpious and walked off towards the library. Nobody in his family talked to him anymore, except the Weasley's occasionally. Albus was technically shunned from the Potters. James avoided him everywhere and Lily refused to talk to him. He was still seeing Lucy, and that infuriated James. Not because he still liked her, but because he knew Albus would be hurt in the end.

"Al!" Scorpious shouted. "Fucking Potters."

12. Chapter 12: Puppy Love

It was the week before Thanksgiving when the second quidditch match of the season was set, the first game for Gryffindor. "Ladies and Gentleman, and Slytherins, welcome to the first game for Gryffindor and Slytherin!" Hugo Weasley announced. "Today playing is Gryffindor vs. Slytherin. Captains Potter and Zabini battle head to head. I reckon Zabini has a few dirty tricks up his sleeve."

"Alright boys, I want a nice and clean," Madame Hooch turned to Drake Zabini, "Shake." James scowled and firmly held his hand out. The two boys shook, both trying to crush each others hand. "On my whistle." They both mounted their brooms and waited for the blow. When the bludgers were released, she blew the whistle and threw up the quaffle.

James sped for the quaffle and flew across the entire pitch faking out their keeper and scoring the first goal. The stands erupted with screams and chants of POTTER. Higher above, Lily sat on her firebolt staring out across the sky. She looked down to see that Jillian had scored another goal. Across from her she saw Scorpious eyeing the stands in deep concentration. He looks so cute, she thought. She blushed and turned her focus back onto the game. But she couldn't help stare at him. His blonde hair gently brushing in front of his blue eyes and the way his muscles showed through his uniform.

She knew the snitch wouldn't reveal itself until a bit later so she decided to have some fun. She shot up right into the clouds, her arm outstretched and her face in deep determination, but the slightest smirk tugging at her lips. The infamous Potter smirk. As expected, Scorpious followed hot on her trail.

"It looks like seeker Lily Potter has caught sight of the snitch! Malfoy trails her by a few feet and here they come!" Lily swerved to block his view of the "snitch" and dived straight at the ground.

James had just scored another goal and turned to watch his sister. He looked at her hand and saw nothing. He smirked and flew back into

action.

Lily was only a few meters from the ground and pulled up so close, that she pushed up off the ground letting Scorpius loose control and tumble out of balance. He quickly jumped back onto his broom and shook off the dirt.

"Potter has faked out Malfoy! What a brilliant dive if I do say so myself. Looks like Malfoy has a comeback to do to get over that humiliation from a fifth year! Well folks, the score is 80-50 and Gryffinor is in the lead, which is not a surprise."

All the sudden two bludgers came flying from both sides of James and Brendan. They broke apart abruptly and glared at the Slytherins. They all had evil grins. Jillian currently had the quaffle and was sandwiched between Drake Zabini and Albus. James quickly jumped to action and flew below her. She pretended to loose control and dropped the quaffle right to James who caught it and chucked it at the farthest goal post making a perfect shot. He glared at Albus. "Playing dirty Al? Two can play at that game." James flew away, purposely knocking into Albus before going back to defense.

"Looks like a little Potter rivalry today!" Hugo announced. "Still no sign of the snitch. Slytherin has taken the lead 120-100. Looks like Slytherin's angel act is ruined and they've gone back to their slimey plays. Potter swipes the quaffle from Potter and takes it to keeper Brooks and scores. So close Brooks! Looks like all Potters share that perfect angle shooting skill. Gillespie takes the quaffle and speeds away. Looks like a game of monkey in the middle between her and lovebird James Potter. James shoots...and he scores! Zabini takes the quaffle and throws it to Albus." The crowd stood up and gasped. "Holy Snitch! For those of you as lost as I am, Gryffindor beater Quill has aimed the bludger perfectly and bashed the quaffle out of Albus's reach and straight into the arms of Brendan Wood! What a brilliant play Gryffindor!"

Jillian looked up and Tegan and laughed. She flew around proud and tall, even thought Jillian knew it was pure luck that it hit the quaffle. But James didn't need to know that, he just needed to know Tegan was a permanent beater for the season.

After that Gryffindor was on a streak. 160-120. Slytherin's beaters aimed for the arms when Gryffindor tried shooting. Brendan's arm was snapped and the sound echoed through the stands. Everyone cringed when he fell off his broom and landed in a small heap on the ground.

James looked at the Slytherin beaters who were smiling proudly at their accomplishment. Not even five minutes later Liv Wood came into the game to replace her brother.

"Fire!" Jillian shouted.

"Jill, this isn't muggle games! You can't call Fire!" Tegan shouted back.

"Well I just did!" She sped after Albus and bumped into him a few times "accidentally" until he lost balance and dropped the quaffle right into Liv's arms.

James smirked. "Hey Lil' this would be a great time to find the snitch before Jillian kills the entire team!" He watched as Jillian and Liv rammed into Zabini throwing off his aim and throwing the quaffle into air.

"Don't you think I'm trying!" she shouted angrily. "Why don't you go focus on your position before we loose to Slytherin. We're already at 180-170. You're just lucky your girlfriend got all aggressive after Brendan fell. We'd be toast if she didn't!"

James rolled his eyes. "Find that snitch before Malfoy!"

"Malfoy has spotted the snitch!" Hugo shouted. "Where is Potter?"

Lily sat rooted to the spot ignoring the shouts from the crowd. Slytherin had just scored another goal, tying the game at 180. She flew higher and waited until Fred shot a bludger slowing him down. Scorpius extended his hand to catch it and Lily dived in and snatched the snitch. The crowd exploded and Scorpius sighed before flying down to his team.

"POTTER HAS CAUGHT THE SNITCH!" Hugo shouted.

The Gryffindor team flew to the ground and raised Lily onto their shoulders. She laughed and cheered as she was bobbed up and down.

"Malfoy!" Zabini shouted. "You let a fifth year take the snitch! It was like you didn't even want to win! Get in the game man!" He shook his shoulder before walking into the locker room.

Everyone left the stadium and of course, Gryffindors got ready for the killer party Fred planned.

"Lily Potter, my oh my," said a voice. She turned her head to the source. Scorpius Malfoy.

"Malfoy." she flung her jacket over her shoulder and joined him at the entrance of the pitch. "You know, for a guy whose been seeker since he was 13, you already got beaten by a girl whose tried being seeker for a few months. You aughtta step up your game."

"Well I went easy on you. It was your first game so I thought I'd give you some slack."

"All talk no bite...you really sure weren't trying to catch the snitch out there. It's just...I'm better! So why'd you wait for me anyways? Aren't you supposed to be listening to Albus's rants about James and I? Or is he too busy snogging that bitch?"

"I'm not sure, probably the latter."

They walked a little in silence, Scorpius just admiring her. "So, I noticed you checking me out earlier."

Lily blushed. "No, I was just seeing where you were looking. For the seeker advantage. I couldn't help but notice you staring at my arse the whole time as well. I mean with that fake dive you had a great view."

"Well I mean the way you mount that broom was pretty hot."

"So can I help you or are you just going to stare at me like another one of your sluts?"

"Please, you're far from that."

"A compliment? That's new."

"What can I say? I'm turning a new leaf. Speaking of which, how about I meet you in five for a little midday quickie?"

"You're such an arse."

"Mhm I'll keep that in consideration...so then you wouldn't fancy going to the next Hogsmeade trip with me then?"

Lily stopped walking, taken off guard, but he hadn't noticed. They crashed to the ground together and landed in a heap.

"All you had to do was say yes," Scorpius said staring up at Lily who was currently straddling him.

"Shut up. You fell into me."

"Well that's not how it looks..."

"So, did the big bad Scorpius Malfoy ask me, Lily Potter, only daughter of _the _Harry Potter and quidditch all star Ginny Potter, baby sister of the overprotective James and Albus Potter, and best seeker of Gryffindor since my father, out on a date?"

He chuckled. "If you put it that way...then yes."

"Well then I say yes."

They stared at each other. She leaned down and he closed the gap between their lips. He ran his tongue over her lips and they deepened the kiss, or light snog. He placed his hands on her waist, one slowly sliding down to her bum. Lily smirked on his lips and ran her fingers through his perfect blonde hair.

After a few minutes they broke apart and separated to their own common rooms. "I'll see you later tonight?"

"In your dreams Malfoy." She winked before walking away.

"You sure are!" he shouted back.

Lily caught up to her friends and told them everything about Scorpius.

"Lily, not even four hours ago you were complaining about how much of an arse Scorpius was!" Marlene Finnegan exclaimed. "Now you're dating him?"

"I'm with her," Maeve, Marlene's sister, agreed. "You two have bickered and fought since your third year when he hit on you and you've hated him since! When did all that fighting turn to...sexual

tension?"

"Maeve!" Lily gasped. "I don't know...but it's not sexual tension. I guess over summer when he and Al always hung around us. Well that is before the whole thing with James and Al."

"Makes sense though," Marlene said. "I mean all he did was flirt I suppose and you shot him down. It was bound that you two would get together."

"Lily, isn't Rose crazy for Scorpius?" Maeve asked. "Won't she be pissed when she finds out about you two? Let alone James and Albus."

"Albus, he can go shag a Hippogriff for all I care! James, he's gonna be harder to avoid. Rose, well too bad for her. He's got a thing for redheaded Potters."

Maeve laughed. "Well who can blame him? You're gorgeous."

"WHAT!" Rose shouted. "Dom, you have to be lying! Scorpius said he didn't like anybody, well except me. But that's beside the point. Who could he be going on a date with to Hogsmeade? He said he's be fine hanging out with us!"

"Rosie, that was months ago and I'm positive he only said it to be nice," Dominique explained. "He only asked this girl out yesterday...Sweetie, I think you should let him go. Isn't there anybody else you like? I mean Lorcan was for a little bit."

"No! I've like him since I got here and he befriended Albus. Lorcan was just a summer distraction and we barley lasted a week. Who is this tramp anyways? Maybe James would know. I mean, he always knows the drama going on."

The two girls went down to the Gryffindor common room and spotted James and Jillian sitting on the couch with Fred and Tegan on the floor. Rose came and sat beside James with her pleading smile. "James! My favorite cousin!"

"Hey!" Fred exclaimed.

"What do you want Rose?" James asked.

"So I'm sure you've heard of this mystery tramp Scorpius Mafloy is seeing. Do you know who she is?"

"I honestly don't care who Malfoy is screwing these days."

"Ugh I'll just go talk to the man himself."

James scoffed. "I would hardly call him a man..."

Rose glared at him before stalking out the common room.

"Alright, so who's this mystery girl?" Tegan asked.

James shrugged. "I have no clue, nor do I care! The git flirts with every girl and he's especially fond of Lily! I swear if he touches her I'd kill him."

"Kill who?" Lily asked sauntering into the common room.

"Malfoy. If he ever laid a hand on you," Fred explained.

Lily faked a laugh. "Yeah, stupid git flirts with me all the time."
Not that I mind, she thought.

Meanwhile, Rose and Domnique made their way to the dungeons and found Albus entering the common room. "Al!" Rose shouted, jogging to meet him. "Is Scorpius in there?"

"Probably, what's it to you?" he answered annoyed.

"He's dating a girl and I've heard she's in Gryffindor. I just want to know who the tramp is."

Albus rolled his eyes. "If he was dating someone I'm sure he'd tell me. But come in if you'd like." He turned to the portrait. "Flying Pixies." The portrait swung open. He walked into the room and immediately spotted Scorpius draped across the couch with Marcus Nott and Ace Rosier by his side. "Scorp, I hear you've snagged a bird."

Scorpius chuckled. "Nothing you need to worry about Al." He noticed Domnique and Rose behind him and sighed before sitting up. "Is this a family reunion or something?"

Albus rolled his eyes and sat in the smooth black leather chair. "No. They just want to see who you're supposedly snogging."

Rose crossed her arms defensively. "So? Who's the tramp?"

"She's far from a tramp Rosie," Scorpius said.

"Well who is it?"

"One of the most wanted girls at this school," Marcus added. "But nobody can 'ave her."

Albus sat up straighter and leaned in. "What do you mean nobody can _have_ her? Is she a virgin?" Scorpius chuckled and shrugged. "Is she dating someone else?" Scorpius shook his head again. "Is she a one night stand? What else? Rose said she was a Gryffindor..."

Scorpius frowned. "Oh did she?"

"She's a real flirt too," Ace commented. "I mean she practically snogged him all night. She's got him wrapped around her little finger."

Scorpius scowled and slapped his arm. "Shut up Rosier, I don't remember the last time you even had a girlfriend."

Albus rolled his eyes. "Well common, spit it out Malfoy. We're best mates." Scorpius shook his head. "It can't be too bad I mean just because she's a Gryffindor doesn't mean you can't tell us, er... well at least me."

Rose groaned in defeat but turned to Rosier and Nott. "So...you know

who Scorpius is dating then?" She moved closer to them.
"Please?"

"Rose, being a slut won't get you anywhere," Dominique said.

"You're closer to her than you think," Rosier added quickly.

Nott nodded, "Yeah aren't Potter's and Weasley's related somehow?"
Scorpius groaned and buried his head into his hands.
"What?"

"Potters? The only Potter I know is James, Lily, and Al. Unless Al or James are gay then it has to be Lily!" Rose exclaimed.

"Wow, congrats. You figured it out!" Scorpius said
sarcastically.

They all sat in silence when Albus stood up abruptly. "Wait, you've been snogging my baby sister all night? Is that why you weren't in the dorm last night? What else are you doing to her! Wait...you said she wasn't a virgin! Are you shagging her too?"

Scorpius got up and backed away. "Nooo...she's not a baby anymore. I'm not screwing her, I promise."

Nott chuckled. "But he wants too, I mean why do you think his hangings are closed so much? Two words. Jerking off."

Albus was livid now. As was Rose.

"Well...this is awkward," Dominique commented. "I'm hungry anyone want to join me?"

"Ahh a Weasley finally has a brilliant idea!" Scorpius exclaimed. He made a run for the portrait hole and ran down the corridor with Rose and Albus on his trail.

He made a few turns and hid in the courtyard until they passed. He made his way down to the quidditch pitch and grabbed one of the schools broom from the shack and flew around, hopefully to avoid James and Albus.

Rose told the Fat Lady the password and the two stormed in with Dominique following. They walked over to the group of four laughing about something Tegan had said but all fun and games stopped when James saw Albus. It was like a dark cloud flew overhead knocking out the sun and rainbows.

"Albus, can we help you?" Tegan asked.

"Yes. James, did you know Lily was dating Malfoy and that she's been snogging him!" he exclaimed.

James's took a second to process what Albus had just said and laughed it off. "You're joking right?" Albus still stood there serious as ever. "What!" he got up and ran a hand through his hair. "Malfoy! I thought she had better taste...Wait, how are you sure that it's Lily. There are plenty of redheaded girls running around Hogwarts. Look at Rose!"

Albus rolled his eyes. "It's Lily, Scorpius admitted it himself but I lost him when he ran away. Nott said everybody wanted her."

James groaned. "If he touches her I will kill him!"

Jillian placed a gentle hand on his shoulder and he turned around. "James, Lily is fifteen almost sixteen. She can have a relationship, Malfoy or not. It explains why she acted so weird last night when we were talking about it..."

"But Jillian!" James pleaded. "It's Malfoy. That piece of scum basks in all his Malfoy glory and lays every girl! He can't possibly be dating Lily! He's a Malfoy for Merlin's sake! I thought she hated him too, I mean they always fight!"

"And look at how we turned out!" Jillian said. "It's not different."

"But he's Malfoy!"

The two boys made their way to the portrait and to the Black Lake where Lily and Maeve were talking about the upcoming Hogsmeade trip. Scorpius was supposed to meet Lily in a few minutes as well.

"I think you two make a cute couple. I mean leave it to you to break the Malfoy Potter feud with hidden romance. I mean you basically snogged him in public earlier today. I can't imagine what your brothers will say."

"Whatever, they never like my boyfriends. The only person they'll be okay with is the Scamander twins and they're like brothers to me. Besides, they'll probably lecture me about dating as well."

Maeve's face fell. "Speak of the Devils." Lily turned around and coming down the hill were her brothers and Fred. "Lils, maybe they'll be civil about it."

Minutes later...

"You can't date Malfoy!" James shouted. "Have you no Potter Pride? Wait 'til mum and dad find out! Wait 'til Ted and Uncle Ron find out! I can't believe you would go to the enemy!"

"He's a womanizer Lily!" Albus added. "I would know, he's never in the dorm and when he is, he locks all of us out! Lily have some common sense."

"He's your best friend," Lily exclaimed. "I am fifteen, nearly sixteen, and you have no right to tell me who I can and can't date! Scorpius won't hurt me. Albus you know him better than anyone! You know he doesn't shag around like everyone says!"

"He said you weren't a virgin."

"He what!" James exclaimed. "Lily you're too young!"

"That is none of your business! You two are such hypocrites. When did you two have girlfriends? Twelve? When did you have sex James? Fourteen? Honestly you act like your still five! At least I don't go after my brothers leftovers."

Albus reddened. "That-that's not fair."

"We're boys Lily!" James countered. "We know what boys want and Malfoy wants one thing."

"Well then I'll give it to him because he's better than both of you combined. You are such arses!"

"I'm writing mum and dad!"

"Go ahead!" she crossed her arms and glared at them.

They stood there, the tension so thick you could cut it with a knife. Scorpius was walking up hill his eyes locked on his broom that he didn't even notice James and Albus. "Hey Lily you know Albus found out we were going out he was pretty piss..." he looked up at the three Potters. "Oh, well I guess you already know."

James walked over to him and punched him in the eye. He stumbled back and drew his wand in front of him. He fired a spell but James blocked it. They duelled for a few minutes until Lily accioed their wands.

"Grow up." she exclaimed. "If mum and dad find out from anyone but me, you'll join grandmum Lily and grandpa James in their graves!" She grabbed Scorpius's hand and dragged him up the hill with Maeve beside her. She stopped at the top of the hill and stared down at her two brothers. She grabbed Scorpius's face and snogged him, which he had no problem with. They broke apart and James and Albus were cringing below. She smirked and brought him up to the hospital wing. "I'll see you in a bit Maeve. I'm going to stay with Scorpius." She took the ice from his hand and gently rested it on his eye. "I'm sorry about my arse brothers."

"No I knew I had it coming. But hey, I could've won that duel."

"Two Potters against one Malfoy, as much as I like you, even I know you would have lost."

"Albus wouldn't duel me, he's too much of a pussy to do it."

"True. Can I get you anything else?"

"I mean, another snog would be amazing."

Lily giggled and kissed him until Madame Pomfrey came back and released him. They walked hand in hand down the corridor ignoring the stares and whispering. They broke apart at the Great Hall entrance and went to their respective tables.

Lily avoided James like a plague and Scorpius refused to make eye contact with Albus.

Lots of girls came up to Lily to confirm her relationship with Scorpius.

_"Did you hear Lily Potter is dating Scorpius Malfoy?" _

_"I heard James caught them shagging in a broom cupboard." _

_"I thought he was dating Rose Weasley." _

_"Potter's a better choice." _

_"I heard James beat him up!" _

_"I heard Albus kicked him out the common room when he found out." _

Jillian and James were sitting on the floor. James played with her blonde waves and she played with his fingers. "I think they're cute," Jillian said. "Don't be all overprotective on her. I mean we do things all the time. It isn't fair that you're making him the bad guy."

James sighed. "I guess but it's different."

"How so? What if Teddy and Victoire started telling you that you were too young to snog me?"

"I probably wouldn't listen to him..."

"Exactly. It's no different. Lily's growing up to be a responsible young lady and if you and Albus are in the way, how will she ever find the perfect boy? I mean that's how I found you."

James smirked. "Potter's are flirts. Except Al, I'm still pissed at him. Mum and Dad still don't know about what happened. But it's okay. Anyways, Christmas is coming up in a month. Are you staying with us? Our rooms are filling up so I guess you'll have to stay with me..."

"Oh darn! I was hoping to share a room with Fred!" Jillian laughed and kissed his cheek. "Of course I'm staying. Besides, sharing a bed isn't anything new."

"Maybe we should sleep together tonight so we can prep for Christmas." James, who had been staring at her bare neck and collarbone, started kissing it and leaned back so she was straddling him.

It turned into a hot snogging session on the floor when Lily walked in. They broke apart quicker than anyone could say Quidditch. Jillian blushed and James gave a weak smile.

"Get a room," Lily said. "Look who's the hypocrite now? Still you!"

Jillian gave him a reassuring look and James got up. "I'm sorry for overreacting Lily. It's just your my baby sister and the thought of Malfoy...doing things," he shuddered, "with you, disgusts me. Jillian says he's a good guy but if he does anything he's dead!"

Lily hugged him. "Well you don't need to know about that stuff. I'm going to see him later and I don't want you spying. You can go snog Jillian or whatever, just don't ruin this for me! I mean I really like him."

"Ew okay good to know, now scram. You interrupted something very

important."

"Mhm...I'm sure that's not your wand in your pocket."

James blushed and turned his sister around and pushed her towards the portrait. "Get out!"

Jillian laughed. "James Potter, you are happy to see me." she looked at the bulge in his pants and giggled. "I'm glad you're going to be civil with Malfoy and Lily. It's puppy love."

"Yeah, yeah..."

13. Chapter 13: Sorry

The castle grounds were covered with its first blanket of snow since January. It was December 1st and teachers all over were putting up their Christmas decorations around the castle. James and Fred were playing an intense game of chess in the Great Hall while Jillian and Tegan were coming back from Hogsmeade. They found the boys in their usual spot at the table and went to join them.

"Hey boyfriend," Jillian said kissing James's cheek.

"You never get old of saying that, do you?" James asked. "Not that I mind of course."

"Sister at nine o'clock," Fred said.

"That's not a move Freddie." James took a second and then turned around to see Lily and Scorpius kissing under the mistletoe. "EW, okay, I'm leaving." He got up and strode over to them and pulled out his wand, burning the plant hanging above the two. "Ah lovely seeing you two here! I'm puking right now."

"Potter," Scorpius said. He was only a few inches shorter than James, but he still held his head high.

"James," Lily muttered. "We were just on our way to the library mind you."

"Have you told mum and dad yet?"

"Not yet, I'm waiting. And Scorpius is coming for Christmas. With Al..."

"Of course he is." James snarled at Scorpius and walked away. "Bloody Malfoy's." He grabbed his cloak from his dorm and made his way to the Black Lake. He found a small secluded section where little first years weren't building snowmen and melted the ice with his wand. He transfigured a few rocks from the ice chunks around him and started skipping them. A little while later, he felt a hand on his shoulder and immediately knew who it was. "My record is nine skips."

"I never learned," Jillian said grabbing a pale grey rock from his collection. "Teach me?"

James threw his rock and walked behind her. He rested one hand on her waist and the other held her hand. She leaned back and drew a deep

breath. "You should teach me to do things more often."

James chuckled. "I can teach you a lot of things in bed too."

Jillian gasped and hit his arm. "James!" She laughed and turned back around. "Alright, just teach me, Professor."

"Professor Potter...I could get used to that." He pulled her arm back and let her snap it forward. It skipped twice before sinking. "Not too bad for a first try." He picked up another and handed it to her. "Now on your own."

She tried once more and it only skipped once. "I can't do it. It's a skill I will never acquire!"

"Okay Miss Dramatic, you just need to relax."

"Soo...you reckon that Lily and Scorpius will last a while?" She tossed the rock in the air and turned to face him.

His nose scrunched up and he leaned on the tree behind him. "I hope not."

"He's not a bad bloke James. You were fine with him when he came over with Albus all the time during the past years. Before your fight that is."

"Well that's because he wasn't horny for Lily! I mean he was thirteen and she was twelve. I didn't think that they'd go off snogging when I turned my back!"

"I want to make a bet. If I can skip my rock longer than you, than you won't harass them. If you win than you can do whatever and you can make up your own winnings."

James raised an eyebrow. "Alright Gillespie, your on!"

He shook her hand and picked up and rock. He bent down slightly and flicked the rock. It skipped seven times before plunging into the water. "Seven, beat that...sweetheart."

She gave a fake smile and ran her thumb over the smooth rock. She concentrated on the water and turned to look at James with a smirk. She flicker her wrist, still making eye contact with him. James watched the rock skid across the surface gracefully. Ten times.

"Well Jamesy, looks like you'll be civil the rest of the time." She rose on her tip toes and pecked his cheek. "And my record is twelve...not to brag."

Albus sat on the Grand Staircase steps with Lucy who was judging every girl who passed by.

"Her socks are way to high up and her shoes are so ugly. She's a walking street market! Honestly, do people have no fashion sense? I mean these uniforms are bad enough. I should help the less fortunate."

Albus rolled his eyes. "Lucy, you're not even a pureblood and stop acting like its the 1990's again. You're no different from them."

"Well I managed to snatch a Potter, they however, get to be jealous."

From around the corner James and Tegan sat on the window ledge. It was their free period and they loved to watch people scurry around the corridor. James watched Albus, and could easily tell her was agitated. "Looks like trouble in paradise."

Tegan sighed. "When are you going to get over your stupid sibling thing and move on! I mean it's been three months and you've barley said twenty words to him! Do you really want to hate him forever?"

"If he's with that whore, yes."

"JP, you need to get over your ego and live a little. Just because he said some mean things and then started making out with your ex doesn't mean that you can't forgive him! Honestly do I need to do everything around here?" She hopped down from her post next to James and walked over to the couple on the staircase. "Albus," she looked at Lucy, "whore. I think you should apologize to James because you are being a five year old children who needs to learn to grow up! For Merlin's sake you are nearly of age and you two are fighting because you took James's ugly leftovers who will probably break up with you tomorrow for Zabini!" She slapped Albus across the face and walked off.

Albus held his cheek and stared after her. He knew she was right, but he didn't want to apologize to James. Not for anything. "IT'S NOT MY FAULT I CAN KEEP A GIRL LONGER THAN HE CAN!" he shouted loud enough so Tegan and James could hear.

"She's just a foolish bitch. Don't listen to her Alby." She kissed his neck from behind and ran her hands along his chest. "I'll never leave you."

Though Albus could tell by her voice that she wasn't serious, he couldn't help but be soothed by her. His body calmed at her touch and he turned around. "I know." He grabbed her hand and they walked off together passing James along the way. He sneered at Albus and walked right up to him.

Albus couldn't register what was about to happen until he was on the floor with a throbbing headache. He felt blood ooze from his nose and drip onto his freshly washed green tie. He touched his nose and winced. James had punched him and broken his nose. "JAMES!" He got up and tackled his older brother who was distracted by him semi-injured hand. The two fell to the ground and the students gathered around to watch. Albus was currently on top punching James's stomach. James grabbed him by the collar and yanked him off and punched his eye. They wrestled on the floor a bit until Professor McGonagall came by and broke them apart by body binding them.

"James Sirius and Albus Severus Potter! My office, NOW!" Once the two boys could move, they followed McGonagall to the Headmasters office in silence. The only sound was the footsteps on their walk of shame

echoing through the corridors. They sat on two red chairs and sunk down low to avoid eye contact with her.

"I'm going to floo your parents! This kind of behavior will not be accepted in my school!" She was gone in a flash and reappeared within two minutes. "Your parents will be here momentarily."

McGonagall stared at them in disappointment. She transfigured a chalice of water to ice and wrapped it in a towel and gave it to Albus for his black eye, then gave James a bucket so he wouldn't puke up blood on her floor. There were suddenly two pops and both boys sat up straight and tensed up.

"JAMES SIRIUS AND ALBUS SEVERUS POTTER, YOU BETTER EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW!" came the screams of Ginny Potter. She stared at her boys and placed her hands on her hips. The sign of a very mad Weasley woman.

"Mum, it was Albus's fault! He tackled me!" James shouted in defense.

"James punched me first!" Albus exclaimed. "We wouldn't be here if he hadn't hit me!"

"We wouldn't be here if you hadn't tackled me!"

Harry stood by McGonagall and poured a cup of tea. "Are you still coming by for Christmas Minerva?"

The woman nodded. "I will if I'm still alive by then. These boys will be the death of me!"

Ginny turned around and glared at Harry. "Our boys have gotten into a physical fist fight and all you can talk about is Christmas? Harrold!"

Harry set down his cup of tea and crossed his arms. "Sorry dear. James, you start. What happened."

"Well, me and Quill were doing our daily routine of watching people in the corridor during our free period when Albus starts yelling about how much of a git I am so then I came up and punched him. Then he tackled me! The only logical thing to do was defend myself from the crazy kid! He started hacking away at my stomach so I pushed him off! Then he tackled me again and that's when McGonagall came in."

"That's not what happened!" Albus exclaimed.

"Alright Albus, you can tell us what happened now," Harry said calmly.

"Well I was with my girlfriend and then Tegan comes up and starts preaching about how I should be nicer to James and stop acting like I'm five so I responded and then James comes up and breaks my nose! So I fought back and then he gave me this." He pointed to his eye.

"What were you even fighting about?" Ginny asked. "Lily told me you two were in a fight in her last letter but I figured it was something

two adult boys could handle. I guess I was wrong."

Albus glared at James. "It's nothing."

"Albus's girlfriend is Lucy," James blurted.

"Albus?" Harry said. "Is that true?" The boy only nodded. "Do you fancy her? Or are you still trying to get back at James. Because they were together very long and I know you brought her to the campsite to rile him up."

Albus shrugged.

"If you don't really fancy her, then I want you to end it," Ginny said. "I'm not one to meddle with your love lives but I never liked that Lucy girl."

"James is dating Jillian!"

James scowled and sunk lower in his chair hugging the puke bucket.

Ginny beamed. "Really Jamie? That's great!"

James stared at her confused. "What?"

"I knew you two were bound to date sometime! I wonder if AJ knows! If he does I can't believe he didn't tell us!"

James sat up straighter. "Wait, so Vicky and Ted didn't say anything to you yet?" Harry and Ginny shook their heads. "Looks like I do have a favorite brother after all."

Albus rolled his eyes.

"Boys this fight is honestly the stupidest thing I've ever heard of," Ginny said. "Lucy Campbell, Albus? Sweetie you could do better than that girl. We're going to leave you in here until you sort out your differences. McGonagall, care for a stroll?"

"That would be lovely," she answered.

The three adults left them in the office and locked the door behind.

James sighed heavily after a few minutes. Neither boy had said anything yet. "Sorry for trying to sell your room to some family."

"Sorry for yelling at you."

"Sorry for putting itching power in your robes."

"Sorry for hexing you."

"Sorry for breaking your broomstick."

"Sorry for telling Jillian she was a whore."

"Sorry for breaking your nose."

"Sorry for punching your guts out."

"Sorry for giving you a black eye."

"Sorry for trying to making you jealous."

"Sorry for you dating Lucy."

"Sorry for dating her."

"Sorry for calling you names, though that won't stop."

"Sorry for being a loser brother."

"Sorry for not being there."

They stopped and looked at each other. Their fight was more than just about Lucy. It was all the unsaid things added up. Albus had betray James's trust by telling Lucy everything he knew about him for blackmail all for really nothing. He put a mental note to oblivate her memory. "It's alright."

"I'm not sorry for dating Jillian though."

Albus rolled his eyes. "I figured that would come up...well looks like she's madly in love with you so I had no chance anyways."

"You'll get some girl Snakey, just don't go for my exes. I can't believe you stuck with her for three months anyways."

"Yeah neither can I..."

They laughed together for the first time since summer.

"Alright Mum and Dad!" James shouted. "You can come in!"

The door unlocked and the three walked in with smiles.

"You can go now, but I don't want anymore fights! Honestly grow up boys," Ginny said with a smirk. "Love you my babies."

"Yeah, yeah."

They walked out together and James put Albus in a brotherly headlock. "Good to see you again Al."

14. Chapter 14: Shop 'Til You Drop

"So are we going to Hogsmeade?" Scorpius asked.

Lily shrugged. "Is that you're way of asking me?"

"Well, I could ask with roses and be a third year loser. But I just assumed we were going together."

Lily laughed. "I guess I'll go with you. But I'm dress shopping for my parents annual ball. You're invited too, by the way."

"Oh, so is that how we're gonna tell everyone?"

"There's no better way than making a scene!"

"Mr. Potter, my office please?" Professor Gillespie said.

James quickly stood up from the couch next to Jillian and gave her a weary look. She gave him an encouraging nod and gave a quick warning glance at her father. James reluctantly followed him to his office.

"Sir, can I ask what we're talking about? I can explain the slime under the desks! It was an innocent joke for Slytherin!"

Professor Gillespie shook his head, "No James that's not what I - wait. What slime?"

"Nothing. What did you want Sir?"

"So I've been informed that you and my daughter are...seeing each other." James nodded. "For how long?"

"About four months now..."

"Have you done -"

"No Sir."

"I trust you James. You're a good man. Treat her well. You're free to leave."

James nodded and ran down the stairs and out of the tower. He took a long stroll before finding Jillian in the library with Georgia. "How're my two favorite girls?"

Georgia looked up and hugged him. "I haven't seen you in so long I thought you died! Oh and I'm top in transfiguration. Except for this kid, Luke. He's always trying to beat me for everything! Ugh he's so annoying all he ever does is flirt with girls. He especially likes to pick on me."

Jillian smirked. "I think he likes you. Story sounds pretty familiar."

James laughed. "But you're too young to date."

"I'm only a year younger than Lily and she's dating!"

Jillian rolled her eyes. "James's just teasing. I'll see you tomorrow Georgia to go over the essay. I've got to talk with James." She got up and grabbed James's hand leading him to the corridor. "McGonagall wants to go over some Head duties later. But what'd my dad say?"

"Just talked about if we were dating. I'm surprised it took him this long to figure it out."

"Guess we're pretty good at hiding things then. So I got the invitation to your parents ball. I'm going dress shopping with Tegan

today at Hogsmeade."

"Oh speaking of which I'll give you some galleons."

"James, I can pay for myself."

"Well what's the fun in that?" He gave her a small sac and kissed her forehead. "Just tell me what tie to wear love."

Jillian played with the bag and looked up at him. "I suppose. But I'll pay for your bow tie."

"It's a gift. You don't need to pay me back for anything. We can meet up at the Three Broomsticks around one for lunch. Mum wants me and Freddie to get fitted for new dress robes. Then we're gonna go to Zonkos. And then we have to go Christmas shopping."

"Oh me too. We can go together then get each other something separately."

"Alright. Sounds good."

Jillian parted ways and eventually found herself staring into the window of a boutique in London. "Tegan, we should probably go back soon, we're not supposed to sneak off," Jillian said.

"Jilly, you can't be so boring! Live a little." Tegan stared up at the dress on the mannequin. "You would look so adorable in that! Let's go in."

"But Tegan, James only gave me galleons. I can't spend that in London!" she said in a harsh whisper.

"You really think James would let you buy a dress in Hogsmeade?"

Jillian shrugged and took out the sac from her pocket. She opened it and found nearly 200 pounds. "He's so insufferable! I told him I could pay for my own dress and shoes. Honestly."

"Jillian, James has enough money to last you two a lifetime. Enjoy it."

"I don't care about money. I just want to be able to pay for my own things. I feel bad he's wasting it on me."

Tegan rolled her eyes and scanned the dresses. "Here, try this on. I'll keep looking." She shoved a red dress into her arms and pushed her towards the dressing rooms. After a few minutes Tegan rounded up about ten dresses and waited outside the fitting rooms.

Jillian came out in the maxi dress and raised an eyebrow. "Red?"

Tegan laughed. "You look cute, but not red. We're going with blue. It goes with your hair." She gave her the dresses and took the dress for her own.

The two emerged around the same time from their rooms.

"You look hot!" Jillian exclaimed. "Red is definitely your color TQuill."

Tegan stared into the mirror. The dress fit every inch of her body with a long slit reaching to about mid thigh on her right leg and a V neckline.

Jillian laughed. "I don't like this one. I'll try another."

Dress after dress Jillian declined all of them. It was almost noon and she was down to three left. She practically tried on the entire store. Tegan had already purchased her dress and started looking for shoes in the store. She settled on a pair of strappy silver heels. "Jillian did you find one yet?"

"No! I'm trying on this baby blue one...Nevermind. I'm trying on the white and gold one or whatever it's called. Gite? Whold?"

A minute later Jillian came out. "I love it!" Tegan exclaimed.

The top half was gold with an a-line neckline with two straps and covered in little jewels. It hugged her skinny body and then flared out into a white ballerina skirt that reached an inch below her thighs. Jillian stared at herself and smiled. She stared at her cowboy boots and laughed. "Maybe I'll spare James and just wear these ol' things."

"It's gorgeous Jillian."

"I'll buy it."

Around one they all met up at Three Broomsticks for lunch.

"So you buy anything?" James asked setting down their butterbeers.

"No, we just have bags because we felt like carrying them," Tegan said sarcastically.

"Well then."

"Thank you so much James." Jillian kissed his cheek and handed back the brown sac. "I didn't buy much."

"You should've spent it all Love."

"It was more than enough. I got a dress, new shoes, makeup, and some jewelry. I also got your tie for your robes." She grabbed a small bag and showed him the gold bow tie. "Did you buy your dress robes?"

"Yeah, it took forever though, bloody woman couldn't find her wand!" Fred exclaimed. "I hate that place."

After a while they split again and James took Jillian to Zonkos. "I'm getting Aunt Hermione an invisible chest for her sweets because she's always complaining about how Hugo ate it all last summer when he found her stash."

Jillian smiled. "Can we stop into Honeydukes? My mum wanted some

chocolate frogs but she said she was too lazy to go and get them herself."

James laughed. "Anything for you." He wrapped an arm around her and kissed her forehead.

15. Chapter 15: Blast to the Past

"James!" Ginny shouted. She waved her hand in the air and bear hugged him when he came into view. "Where are your siblings?"

James shrugged. "Oh somewhere."

Harry walked over and gave his son a hug. "So where's your partner in crime?" he asked.

"Oh Jillian? She's with her mum somewhere."

Lily watched from the train and held Scorpius's hand. "Should we wait?"

"Well I'm all for never telling my family but whatever you want."

"We'll wait." She kissed him one last time. "I'll see you soon Scorp!" She grabbed her luggage and happily skipped over to her parents. "Mum, dad!"

Harry and Ginny turned around to see their happy redheaded daughter leaping towards them. James rolled his eyes and went off to look for Jillian. He found her with her parents and placed a gentle hand on her lower back. "Hello Mrs. Gillespie, Sir, Jillian." He winked at her.

"Oh James what a pleasure to see you!" Mrs. Gillespie exclaimed. "How's your final year going?"

"Amazing." He smiled at Jillian and tightened his arm around her. Jillian gave him a warning look but he dismissed it. "So how's everything?"

"Pretty good except the ministry is firing people in my department. Hopefully I'll stay. But what about you? Any new girlfriend? Jillian hasn't said anything much about boys."

James smirked. "Well actually yes. I've been dating this girl for a while now."

"Do your parents know?"

"Yeah, somehow they found out."

"Oh I hope to meet her at the ball."

"Well she's closer than you think. I should get going, mum's going to have a fit if she can't find me. Nice too see you." James made a bold move and quickly kissed Jillian before running away to his family. "Love you!"

Jillian rolled her eyes and nervously stood there. "So...nice weather we're having!"

"Yeah, beautiful!" Mr. Gillespie agreed. "How about some ice-cream Jillybean?"

Mrs. Gillespie stared at the two. "What's going on here? Jillian, are you dating James?!" She nodded. "Oh finally! I was really hoping you two would get together! And AJ, you didn't owl me this! How long have you known and kept it?"

"Love, I only knew for a little while, I promise!"

"Mhm." Mrs. Gillespie rolled her eyes and hugged her daughter. "So how long have you two been dating? James said for a little while. A month, two?"

"Since the camping trip, mum," Jillian answered. "Almost four months I suppose."

"Jillian! I thought we had a close relationship."

She shrugged. "I guess I was nervous to tell you. I mean James's been a git his whole life and I never thought I'd be dating him. So I figured you wouldn't like him anymore."

"Jillian, James has been apart of our family since he was born! We would never think differently of him!"

"Unless he hurts you," Mr. Gillespie added. "Then he won't be welcomed."

"Dad!"

It had been a few days back home and Jillian was expected to come by soon. James was ecstatic about it. He wouldn't shut up about it.

It was snowing in Godric's Hollow that morning. But that didn't stop the Potters from playing some family quidditch. Children against parents of course. Ron and Hermione came by with Hugo and Rose and Teddy and Victoire came over also. Like a mini family reunion. Around noon everyone settled back inside to eat lunch and plan the ball. The invites had been sent last week and Ginny was buried in plans.

Ginny, Hermione, and Victoire planned a trip to London to test foods to cater the evening. Harry and Ron had gone into work around one and Teddy had left to babysit his neighbor's kid. The kids were left home alone, which is never a good idea with James in charge.

Around three Fred, Roxanne, Jillian, and Tegan came over. Jillian, Fred, Tegan, and Albus were all sitting in the family room. All with blank faces. The rest were somewhere about the house. It was dead silent, that is until James came running in. He held a gold chain in his hands and ran right out of the room, Lily trailing after him. They ran around the house and back into the family room when Lily jumped onto his back. "James give it back! It's not yours!"

"Lily get off me!" James shouted twisting around to get Lily off his back.

James took another step but fell to the ground, Lily still on top. "Lily!" James immediately stood up pushing Lily off and lifted his shirt. The necklace had broken underneath their weight and the glass cut into James's chest. "What the hell-"

Dust from the floor began rising and swirling around everyone in the room. It lasted a few seconds and they all landed in a heap on the floor. A group of boys stood over them staring at them with utter shock. The Marauders.

"Potter! What did you do to these students!" a girl shouted.

James and Sirius put their hands up in defense. "Lily I swear we didn't do anything this time!" Sirius exclaimed.

Lily rolled her eyes, "Yeah, they just fell out of the sky."

James ran a hand through his messy black hair and shrugged. "Yeah, that's what happened."

Albus was first to get up. Lily Evans immediately rushed to his side and helped him sit up. "Lily, why are we in the commons?" he said groggily. "Wait, why are you so old?"

Lily frowned. "I'm not old! I'm seventeen!" she exclaimed. Albus looked up and saw the Marauders and fainted. "Potter, you're face made him faint!"

"I have that affect on people," he said with a grin.

James II sat up his hands rushing to his chest. "Ow..." the bits of glass were still in his chest and small bits of blood stained through his shirt. He looked up and scanned his surrounding, "Who are you all?"

"We're the Marauders and that's Lily Evans," Sirius introduced. "I'm Sirius Black, prankster-extraordinaire."

"Th-the Marauders, you say?" All four boys nodded. "Merlin what did we get into..." James got up and wiped his hands on his pants, "What year is it, may I ask?"

"Why it's nineteen seventy-seven," Lily answered.

James sat on the common room couch and groaned. "Merlin they're gonna kill me."

The Marauders surrounded him with stern faces.

"Are you working for Voldemort?" Remus asked.

"Volde-who?" James asked. "Oh, isn't he- Shit. No I'm not, _we're_ not."

James stared at him skeptically but backed off when Remus sat next to him. "What's your name?"

"J-Jake."

"This is my best mate, James!" Sirius said slinging an arm around James's neck. "You look just like him, without the glasses and a better jawline."

"Shut up Padfoot," James muttered.

A minute later Lily came back down the girls staircase with a washcloth. She sat on the table in front of James II, or Jakes. "Lift your shirt, Jake." James hesitantly lifted his shirt over the cuts and took it off. Lily pointed her wand at his chest andaccioed the bits of glass and gently dabbed his chest. "What happened?"

"Oh, er, I tripped."

After a few minutes everybody was up and sitting on the couch and chairs in the common room. James II's shirt was still missing but Lily had mended everything, much to James's dismay. They all sat there in awkward silence until Sirius broke it. "So can you tell us who you are or not?"

James II looked at Jillian and then back at the Marauders and Lily Evans. "We're exchange students. Dumbledore wanted to see us but my brother, the idiot, decided to try apparating inside the castle and we ended up here I suppose. Speaking of which, would you show us to the Headmasters office?"

Lily nodded. "Sure, follow me guys."

The gang followed Lily through the corridors up to the Headmaster's staircase. "Fizzing Whizbees," she said. The stone began to move and the staircase appeared. "I'll see you guys later, hopefully. Bye!"

The group walked up the stairs to his office and knocked. An old man with a long white beard wearing blue robes opened the door. "Ah, Mr. Potter, what can I do for you?"

"Sir, Dumbledore I believe, I'm a Potter but I'm not the Potter you think I am. May we enter?"

"Surely." He stepped out of the way and they all entered. "What can I do for you James?"

"I'm James Sirius Potter, James Potter and Lily Evans are my grandparents. We're from the year twenty twenty-two. You see our time turner broke and we were sent here and we don't know how to get back. That Marauders and Lily Evans have already met us but they only know me, sort of. I told them I was Jake and we were exchange students."

"Oh." Dumbledore took a seat and scanned over them. "Well then you'll have to attend Hogwarts until we can find away. Time turners have not yet been invented. What Houses and year are you in?"

"Me, Jillian, Fred, and Tegan are all in our seventh year and Gryffindors. My brother Albus is in sixth and he's a Slytherin, and my sister Lily is in fifth and she's also in Gryffindor."

"Well I don't want to separate you, so you'll all be Gryffindors and stay in your years. Your names will have to change however. Except

you." He pointed to Jillian and Tegan. "Arthur Weasley and Molly Prewitt have just had Fred and George, so your name will be Fred Wilkins. You Potter's are going to be Jameson's. Jake, Allan, and _"

"Luna, my middle name," Lily said.

"Very well. Jillian and Tegan you can room in Lily Evans old room with her old roommates. James and Fred, you can room with the Marauders, in James's old room. And Albus," he smiled at the name, "you will room with John Thomas."

"Is that Dean Thomas's father?" Albus asked.

"Most likely. Robes will be given to you later today. It is Saturday and Christmas is two weeks away. It's December fourth, if you haven't been told. Good luck."

16. Chapter 16: Day One in 1977

James II woke up in the Gryffindor dormitories. He looked around and saw boy he didn't recognize, except for Fred's red hair. He thought of last night as a dream but was rudely awakened by reality. He got out of bed and looked at the time. It was only seven. He got dressed quickly and walked down the staircase. He saw a blonde sitting on the couch in a familiar t-shirt. He walked over and sat next to her. "I thought it was a dream," he said.

"Me too," Jillian said. "But we're in this together. How about we go get some breakfast?"

James nodded and stood up, taking her hand in his. "I wonder how Lily and Al are doing."

"I'm sure they'll manage. Albus is smart and Lily is tough. But Dumbledore said we'd get our timetables at breakfast for our classes. I wonder how soon he can fix this."

"Yeah, but I kind of like it here. It's amazing to finally meet my grandparents, even if they do hate each other now. My dad's told me so many stories about Sirius too and Remus. It's a dream to be standing with the Marauders! Except I don't know who that fourth boy is. Dad only mentioned three Marauders. Moony, Padfoot, and Prongs."

"Oh, that's Peter. Lily didn't say much about him."

"So who are your roommates?"

"Mary McDonald, Marlene McKinnon, and Alice Longbottom. Apparently Lily and James are Head's and they have their own little dorm. Wonder why we don't. I mean we have meetings, we patrol, we do everything. Teddy said he and Victoire shared their own dorm. Maybe McGonagall closed the portrait."

"Maybe. Living with you would be fun. Oh Lily's here."

Jillian let go of his hand as they entered the Great Hall. "Let's keep it low." She smiled and sat across from Lily at the Gryffindor

table. "Hi Lily, how are you?"

"I'm good. How're you two adjusting to Hogwarts?"

"It's amazing. It's so big I think I'm going to get lost!" She could see Lily was antsy to ask why they came but was too polite to ask. "My mum was a muggle and my dad was a wizard but he died and my mum didn't know anything about Hogwarts. I grew up with my friend Tegan because her family is halfbloods. We were both home schooled. Until now. Our parents thought it'd be best to learn our final year here with Dumbledore."

"Oh I'm sorry about your loss. But I'm glad your mum decided to send you here. It's not too scary after a few days. What about you Jake?"

James shrugged. "Um my brother and I went to Durmstrang and my sister went to Beauxbatons but our parents moved here to help fight in the war. They're friends with Dumbledore."

Lily nodded. "Are they apart of the Order?"

"No. They didn't want to put us in danger."

"That's smart. Well you're safe in Hogwarts."

The Great Hall slowly filled up with students and the Marauders, the future kids, and Marlene joined them. Sirius, James, Fred and James II immediately began stuffing their plates with crap and shoveled it into their mouths. Somethings never change. However something really surprised the 1977 kids. Lily Luna was the last of the gang to come down and immediately went for Slytherin's table.

"Damnit Lily," James II swore under his breath.

Sirius was the first to notice the redhead bouncing around the Great Hall. "Hey Jake, what's your sister doing...associating with Slytherins?"

"Getting herself into deep trouble..." James said. "Your sister is really something, Jake." They all turned to see Lily sitting between Regulus and Snape. All the Slytherin's looked disgusted by her and annoyed was an understatement.

~Over at Slytherin's table~

"I'm Luna!" she said sitting down, her red hair hitting Regulus's face. She could feel her brothers stare but pushed the feeling away and turned to Regulus. "So Black, we're in the same year apparently. Well that's what Sirius said."

"What's she doing here?" Lucius asked. "Is this Evans look alike your girlfriend Reggie? She looks like a filthy mudblood."

Lily scowled. "Hey! I'm a halfblood and even if I wasn't you have no right to say that. But you, however, look like dirty mop with your girly long hair and your deformed jawline! I bet you became a death eater because he-who-must-not-be-named pitied you!"

The Great Hall was dead silent. They all started at the petite

redhead and the six foot Slytherin. Nobody talked to a Malfoy like that. Whether they were scared or respected him, nobody ever did. Regulus started snickering from his seat and few other fellow Slytherin's also did. "You filthy halfblooded bitch!"

She ignored him and turned to Severus. "Hi Severus! I'm Luna."

The greasy haired boy looked up. "Can I help you?"

"Just a witch trying to make friends!" she smiled at all the Slytherins and scowled at Malfoy.

Over at the Gryffindor table everyone watched the scene unfold. "Mate, your sister is going to get herself killed if she keeps this rep up!" Sirius said to James II. "Slytherin's aren't something you mess with, especially Malfoy. I mean we can take him because we're older but she's only a fifth year."

"She gets it from our mum," Albus said. "Fiery that one."

"Someone should probably stop her," Remus said. "Looks like Malfoy's about to do an unforgivable."

All the Slytherin's sneered and rolled their eyes. Lily turned around to see James, her grandfather, walking towards them. "Luna, what're you doing over here with these gits?"

"I'm being friendly, something you've never done."

"Come on Luna, they don't want you here. Come back to Gryffindor."

Luna sighed. "Bye Severus, Regulus!" She trailed after James saying hi to people she recognized in other houses. "You know, you should really be nicer to Slytherin's, they're not that bad James. Maybe one day you'll save a life"

"They're the spawn of Voldemort himself!" he said in a harsh whisper. "Luna, I don't want you to get hurt so please would you stay away from them?"

"I make no promises, but I'll stay away from Malfoy. He's very mean." He gave her a stern look. "Okay! I'll be careful, I promise."

Lily (Sr.) watched James go over and bring Luna back. She felt something inside her stir. Seeing James with another girl, caring about another girl made her cheeks red as she stabbed at her eggs. "Lils, what's the matter with you?" Marlene asked.

"Someone's jealous..." Sirius teased. "Prongsy boy has found himself a new girl and our little Evans met the green-eyed monster!"

Lily scoffed. "As if, it's Potter!"

Later that day while everyone was in class, Remus, James and Sirius had a free period and sat under the beech tree. James sat against the tree with a small pocket knife carving something into his snitch he carried around. Remus had his books sprawled out over the snow and was currently reading about time travel. And Sirius, he sat there throwing rocks onto the frozen lake. He turned to James, "So Prongs,

do you fancy that Jameson bird?"

James looked up and shook his head. "No, I still love Lily, and that won't change. But for some reason I feel protective over Luna. I don't really know why, it's just this feeling that I should watch over her. It's hard to explain."

"Hey did you know broken time turners can send someone as far back as 100 years or forwards," Remus said. "Imagine that. We could go to the future and meet our kids or somethings. That would be bloody amazing!"

"You know that Luna is different. Nobody talks to Regulus except his Slytherin followers." Sirius said.

"Do you like her Pads?" James asked.

Sirius turned his head. "I don't know. Maybe. She's cool but she's a fifth year and we're seventh years. It's weird. Jillian though, she's hot."

James didn't seem to hear him but close the pocket knife and looked up. "Do you think Lily'd go out if I asked her too?"

"Hello boys," said a voice.

They turned around and saw Luna walking towards them all bundled up in her cloak. "Hello," they replied.

"Couldn't help but over hear the conversation," she said sitting beside Sirius. "I think Lily likes you. My dad used to tell me these stories of my grandparents when they were teenagers. They used to absolutely hate each other but then one day the girl fell in love when the boy stopped trying. Of course he still loved her, he just wanted her to be happy. But she kept putting all these clues into the air that she fancied him and being a boy, he was so daft and never got it until she came up and kissed him. They've been together since. But MoldyWarts killed them..."

The three sat there staring at the redhead.

Sirius smirked. "Hey Prongs, maybe you'll end up like Luna's grandparents! Except the death part. Maybe Lily will date you after all."

"Maybe..."

17. Chapter 17: Games

The future kids lounged around the Gryffindor commons alongside the Marauders and Lily Evans. Everyone was in their own little world. James II fidgeted with a snitch he carried in his pocket - letting it fly around and then enclosing it between his fingers. Jillian, Tegan, and Lily were talking about the DADA lesson they just learned. Peter, Albus, and Remus were playing a game of chess. And James, Sirius, and Lily Luna played an intense game of exploding snap.

There was a snap and a sizzle and a high pitched shriek. James II chuckled from his spot and looked over at Lily Luna who was sitting

with a smug look on her face. Sirius's eyebrows were singed and that was it. They were gone.

"Luna!" Sirius shouted. "Grow them back now!"

James laughed and stared at his best mate. "Padfoot, this is a great look for you."

"Sod off."

Lily pulled out her wand: ten inches, olive, with unicorn hair, and flicked it. Immediately Sirius's eyebrows grew back but Lily stared at the younger redhead. "Luna, how'd you do that?"

James II internally groaned.

"Um...I whispered the spell," Luna said innocently. "Mum said I've got a knack for keeping quiet."

"But your lips didn't move. Do you know wandless magic?"

Luna shrugged, "I'm just talented. Anyways, I'm off to the library. I'll see you later!" She dropped her cards on the table and headed out the portrait. She saw Severus sitting at a table near the restricted section and sauntered over to him. "Hi Sev!"

The boy looked up and frowned. The name brought a pang of hurt to his heart. "Can I help you?" he sneered.

"I don't know, can you?" she smirked.

"Why are you talking to me? Wouldn't you rather be off with Potter and his little gang?"

"I think you could use a friend."

"I don't need your pity. Go back to bloody Potter and his sodding followers!"

"I know all about your past Sev. I know you still fancy the shit out of Lily Evans." His mouth opened but closed and his brows furrowed. "I know things, things you couldn't ever imagine. But she's in love with James and that's that. I know you're really not a bad guy."

"I didn't mean to call her a Mudblood," he murmured.

"I know but you did and that's what happened."

"You look like Potter. You have Lily's hair but Potter's eyes. And his obnoxious smirk."

"Well I have lots of redheads in my family and the smirk is just a trait I picked up. I'll see you later Severus!" She smiled and walked out of the library. Severus stared at her curiously. There was something off about that girl and he was determined to figure it out.

DADA. The only class James II superbly excelled in. He was brilliant in all classes, including transfiguration, but specifically in DADA. His father had something to do with that as well. Lily Luna was great

at DADA as well thanks to her mum, but she leaned more towards Charms. Albus, he was great at everything but especially Potions.

Professor Wallen, a short fat lady with brittle hair, if you could call it that. It was more like straw glued to her dry scalp. She itched her head with her excessively long nails and sat in a large purple chair twirling her wand in her fingers. "Sit, sit!" she instructed. "Today we are dueling. Partner up! And opposite houses, Mr. Black. Alright you and your partner are going to duel. Mr. Malfoy! Ah Miss Gillespie, lovely."

"Prepare to lose, little Gryffindor."

Jillian rolled her eyes. She wondered how someone like Scorpius could be related to someone so vile. How Lily could date the spawn of the spawn of the boy who stood before her. But in their time Lucius was dead. And people celebrated. Even Narcissa. Things were different. But that's then, and this was now. And nothing was going to get between her kicking Malfoy's arse.

They walked equal distances away from each other and Jillian gave a flirty wink at James II below her. Next to James II was James who hadn't noticed what Jillian did, he was too busy talking quidditch with Sirius, but Lily saw it. And nothing could hide the redness that creeped upon her cheeks. Malfoy and Jillian both bowed and got ready to fight. Malfoy held a smug smirk but Jillian knew she was better and wasn't the least bit scared. "Wands at the ready!" Professor Wallen shouted. "Duel!"

Lucius was first to cast. "Expelliarmus!" but Jillian expected it and lazily shouted
"Protego."

"Stupefy!"

"Confundo!"

"Expelliarmus!"

"Reducto!" Jillian shouted. Lucius was immediately blasted to the wall taking the Hogwarts crest tapestry with him and landed in a heap on the ground. Jillian crossed her arms and stood over him. "Not your innocent little Gryffindor after all, Malfoy."

"Excellent Miss Gillespie! Ten points to Gryffindor!"

After class the Marauders swarmed Jillian. To say the least Lily's jealousy increased. Even James was amazed by her. Not only a week into their arrival and the new kids were better than the best students, including herself. And not only that but James seemed infatuated with Jillian. She felt her cheeks go red and she rammed into someone. "Sorry." She looked up and saw Severus. "Oh, it's you."

"Lily.."

"Save it." she walked past him with her chin high but he grabbed her arm. "Let go!"

"Lily I'm sorry! How many times do I need to say it?"

"Until you mean it." She shrugged her shoulder and walked away from him without a glance back.

"Jill," said a voice.

Jillian turned around and smiled at the sight of James II. "Jakey!" she exclaimed. She temporarily forgot their agreement to keep it on the down low until she saw the looks on the Marauders faces. "Erm, Jake, hey, what's up?"

James's face immediately frowned. He didn't like this Jake guy. He was too close to Lily for his liking. All she did was talk to him and touch and stare. "Well I'm crashing here tonight, I'm heading up. G'night ladies," he kissed Jillian's hand and smiled at Lily before heading up, the rest following him up.

Up in the girls dorms, they sat in a circle on the floor. Lily had decided to spend the night. She did not feel like seeing Potter or walking alone. They were gossiping about the boys when Marlene brought up James. "Lily, you so fancy him!" she exclaimed. "You're totally jealous that he's spending time with Jillian. Wait Jillian, do you fancy Potter?"

"No - no! Definitely not!" Jillian said.

"He's obviously fancying you," Lily said. "You should date him."

"Shut up Lily," Alice said. "We all know your jealous. No need to hide it! Frank got so jealous when Diggory started flirting with me. He didn't even want to let me go back to Hogwarts the next summer. Lily he's so obviously in love with you! But you should stop using that Jake bloke."

"Jake? What does he have to do with anything?"

"Like you haven't been using him," Tegan said. "All you do is flirt with him around James. He's not your boy toy honey."

Lily groaned. "Okay so what if I do fancy the bloody socks off of Potter? But he doesn't like me anymore. He stopped asking me out and he rarely talks to me. Only if I'm with Remus or if he wants me to pass the treacle tart."

"Lily do you see the way he shoots daggers when you're with Jake?" Jillian asked. "You cannot be serious that he doesn't still like you. If I know love, then that's it. That boy has never stopped fancying you!"

Lily shrugged. "Yeah but I still don't believe he does. I'm just the girl he fancied in school. If I date him then we're going to breakup and he's going to marry some pureblood witch and I'll probably end up alone in England with my pet owl that everyone thinks is weird! I'll be a crazy owl lady!"

"Listen to yourself!" Marlene shouted. Then there was a tap at the window. Marlene got up and opened it, a grey owl flying in.

"What's James's owl doing here?" Alice asked.

Marlene shrugged and took the letter from the owl while Jillian gave it a treat. "It says 'Meet the Marauders for a fun night in the Room of Requirement at eleven. Yours, Prongs. Well ladies, looks like we're going out!'"

Lily shook her head. "We cannot seriously go with them! We could get into so much trouble! What if McGonagall catches us, or Dumbledore! We could get expelled for Merlin's sake!"

"Lily relax," Alice said. "It's Friday. Now go put on some hot pajamas. James will no doubt be staring at your arse in these shorts!" She tossed her a pair of Gryffindor red silk shorts that barely fit over her bum. "Put 'em on!"

It was about ten-fifty when the girls left the Gryffindor Tower and headed to the seventh floor. Marlene paced back and forth thinking of the Marauders when the large wooden doors appeared. They walked in and saw the boys lounged about on bean bag chairs with an empty bottle of firewhiskey in the middle of the room.

"Ladies!" Sirius exclaimed. "Welcome to game night! Take a seat, take a seat. This room was designed by your truly, Moony and Prongs. Me and Wormy got the food."

"Wormy and I," Lily corrected with an annoyed tone.

"Oh you got food too?"

Lily didn't know whether to roll her eyes or laugh. So she sat down next to James, coincidentally, and crossed her arms. "So what're we doing here?"

"Excellent question, Lily," James II said picking up the empty firewhiskey bottle. "Boys?"

"Welcome to Truth or Dare!" The Marauders exclaimed.

"Rules Moony," James said.

Remus held an old yellow piece of parchment and blew some dust off of it. "That was too much fake dust, Padfoot," Remus wheezed. "Okay, you must do anything the darer says to the darey. Everyone is allowed pixies but in doing so you must take off an item of clothing. And shoes and socks count as one item so no one sock at a time. Everyone in the game is vowed to a truth oath that if they lie they must die." Everyone's face went from calm to horror. "I'm just messing with you. You'll have to take two clothing items off. There is no way to regain your clothes until the end of the game and if he or she forfeits then they walk back to the commons in what they're wearing. And that's the game!"

"Um, I'm not going to make out with any of you by the way," Alice warned.

"Yeah, yeah, Frank," they all muttered.

Once they all sat in a neat circle, Sirius took the bottle and spun first. It landed on Jillian. "Okay Gillespie what shall it be?"

Jillian thought a moment and said dare. "Straight to the point, I like it." He sat there staring at her for nearly a minute before his eye lit up. "I've got it! I dare you to strip for us."

James II sat there between hope and jealousy. He didn't want the Marauders oogling over his girlfriends body. But on the other hand, he did want to see her strip. Not that he hadn't seen it before, but he was a hormonal teenager. Jillian shrugged and got up. Before she could take a step, a pole appeared in front of her. "Well, here goes nothing." And then she did it. After lots of wolf whistles and cat calling from both the Marauders, minus James, and Marlene, Alice, and Tegan were cheering her on. She left her undergarments on, of course, and sat down next to James when she was finish. He handed her her clothing and she redressed and spun the bottle which landed on Peter. He answered truth. "Peter, who do you fancy?" He gave a mumbled answer. "Didn't catch that."

"Melanie Hucksucle."

"That Hufflepuff sixth year?" Sirius asked bewildered. "Let's set him up lads!"

Peter blushed and spun the bottle. It landed on Marlene whom immediately answered dare. "I dare you to...sit on Sirius's lap the rest of the game!"

Sirius gave Peter a smirk and patted his lap for Marlene. She spun the bottle and it landed on James. "Dare." he said confidently.

"Let's see..." Marlene drummed her fingernails on her jaw and gave him a wicked smile. "Snog Lily for a minute."

James looked at Lily. She glared at Marlene. She the last thing she expected was to snog Potter, but a part of her wanted to. Though she'd never admit it. She just sat there and waited for him to come over and snog her senseless but she was surprised to see him pull off his shirt. He threw it onto the table behind them. He ran his hands through his hair and took the bottle. She didn't realize she was staring at his body until Jillian nudged her. He had spun the bottle already and it landed on James II, or Jake.

"Dare."

James evil smirk came back and he stood up to whisper the dare in his ear.

James II face was unreadable. "You're good James. I'll be back!" He walked out the door and the rest sat there in silence.

"What is it Prongs?" Sirius asked, in more of a begging way.

They broke off talking about their own things until James's return. Lily and the girls sat in a small huddle far from the boys.

"Lils you're being awful quiet tonight," Alice said.

"It's nothing."

"Nothing means everything," Marlene said. "You can tell us, we're not

going to laugh."

"Why do you think James wouldn't kiss me?" she said in a very low whisper.

"And so the truth comes out!" Marlene said. They all turned to the Marauders plus Fred II who were laughing at the drawing Sirius had drawn on James's abs. They had animated it to look like mountain climbers. "Lils, he may be a complete idiot, but he was being a gentleman. You obviously didn't want to kiss him so he didn't want to push you."

"But what if I did want to?"

"Then you'll be picking dare on your next turn," Tegan said. The girls stared at each other, all seeming to think the same thought.

The door burst in and James II walked in holding a bag far in front of his face. He threw it by the abandoned bottle and took a seat in one of the chairs panting heavily. James took the bag and opened it slowly with a smirk. "Well done mate! Did she give you trouble?" He threw the bag back to the ground.

"Peeves wouldn't give me the bag until he saw what it was. He flew like the wind and made a ruckus. Bloody Slughorn heard and chased me until I finally lost him. Thank God for the kitchens."

"What's in the bag James?" Lily asked curiously.

James looked up and saw the redhead walk over. "Erm..." he didn't know how to tell the girl he loved that he sent Jake for McGonagall's underwear.

Marlene rolled her eyes. "Quit being a baby James." She picked up the bag and shrieked when she saw what it was. "You didn't...that's nasty Potter!"

Nobody knew what they were talking about until James II stood up. "Potter sent me for McGonagall's underwear. If any of you would like to see it, than be my guest. On with the game?"

The game continued and for some unknown reason, Lily had not been landed on the whole time.

>That is, until Sirius landed on her. "Ah Lilyflower. Truth I assume?"<p>

"Well you assume wrong," Lily said. "_Dare_, Black."

"Alright Evans, you and Prongsy go in that closet for five minutes." He pointed to the red door in the corner of the room. "But spin the bottle so the game keeps going." He winked at her and gave a hearty smile and James.

"Alright," Lily said spinning the bottle. It landed on James II and he picked truth for a change. "Are you dating anyone?"

He glanced at Jillian and nodded. "Yup."

Lily stood up and held out her hand and waited. James sat there

wondering why she wasn't moving but then realized she was waiting for him. He took her hand and they went into the closet which barley held enough room for both of them. When the door closed they heard a click and Sirius mutter a spell. Probably a silencing charm.

There was a little ledge and Lily hopped up to give them more room. "So..."

"So..." James ran a hand through his hair and leaned against the wall with him arms crossed. It was silent for a few seconds and Lily contemplated what to say. She opened her mouth a few times but closed it. "You'll catch flies. Just say what you've been thinking for the past minute Evans."

"Why don't you like me anymore?"

James snapped his head up. "What?"

"You never seem to, I don't know, talk to me or whatever. I know it was my dream for you to leave me alone but it's weird not having you try to show your affections to me. I suppose."

"So you've noticed?"

"Noticed? It's been nothing but a constant bother in the back of my head. When we boarded the train the only words you spoke to me were 'Hello' and 'See you around Evans'. and when these new kids come you seem to be hung over Jillian or with Luna and Sirius. But I should've expected it to happen. I suppose I lead your game on for a few years. It was bound you'd become serious-"

"My names still James," he said with that playful smirk he had. "You really thought I liked Jillian?" She shrugged but nodded all the same. "Lily I didn't mean to - well, actually I did, but it was all Remus's idea. Sirius came up with the two thousand one hundred ninety flowers for how many days I had known you last year and his ideas to serenade you, mostly. I thought they were brilliant ways to get your attention but I was an arse. I was jealous of every boyfriend you had. And there's a reason they never stuck with you, except Writer. Moony said I should avoid that relationship. I did, even though it was a hard few months."

"James..."

"But Moony said over summer that I should lay back the romance stuff this year, which I did. No more love notes, no more public serenades, and that stuff. But never once did I ever stop loving you." He was now standing between her legs and very close to her face.

Lily's mouth opened and closed a few more times. "You were serious about all that?"

"Of course."

"I thought..."

"I know, but you're more than a silly boy crush. You were never that. Well you started as that, but I love you more than anything Lily. I'm jealous that the new boy Jake spends all his time with you, that Moony is friends with you and that you play flirt with Sirius. The

best news ever was that we were going to be Heads together and the second best day of my life was when we decided to become friends. Even though it killed me."

"W-what was your best day of your life?"

"The day I met you of course."

She stared back into his dreamy hazel eyes. She saw something she never noticed before. Not even that amusing look he had in his eyes when he pulled a prank or the serious look he gave when protecting his friends. It was the look Jake gave Jillian when she wasn't looking. The look her parents shared when they were alive. The way Sirius looked at his food. "Why didn't you want to snog me earlier? You barley looked at me before you ripped off your shirt. I dunno, I just thought you didn't like me anymore. I've practically thrown myself at you for the past month!"

James looked down. He was still shirtless, not that Lily minded. "I didn't want to push you into anything but I wanted to."

"So did I..." She said it so quietly a dog couldn't hear it. But somehow James had heard it and he stared into her emerald eyes. There was an unspoken communication between the two. Lily leaned in and their lips met.

Lily didn't know how to feel. She melted into James and put her arms around his neck and he put his around her back pulling her closer. She lazily wrapped her legs around him and ran her hands through his hair. It was soft, and messy as usual. She wondered why he always ran his hands through it and now she knew why. She could play with it all day. James picked her up and her legs held close to his waist. He pushed her against the wall and rested his hands on her bum. Her hair whipped his face a few times and there was that smell. The same smell from the amoretentia earlier that day.

They were so caught up in their snog that they hadn't heard the door unlock and noticed the knob twisting. The silencing charm was still up and Sirius burst the door open. "Evans don't kill me!...?" The group got a quick glimpse of the couple before Sirius slammed the door.

James and Lily immediately broke apart and straightened themselves before James reopened the door. Lily took his hand when they walked out and the others did anything but look at them.

"Hey so...we're going to go to bed. G'night!" Marlene said before they all ran out.

James chuckled and wrapped his arm around Lily's shoulder. "So love, how about we spend the night here?"

Lily looked up and smiled. "I would love to."

18. Chapter 18: The Map

Lily Luna sat in the library hunched over her potions essay when Severus came running towards her. "You!" he exclaimed. "You're not from here!"

Lily was taken back but composed herself. "Well I wasn't born at Hogwarts..."

"Your parents aren't working for the ministry. Jameson isn't even a wizard name! And that Gillespie, there have been no recent deaths under that name. How did you know I got the dark mark?"

Lily stared at his arm. The other day she had slipped out that he was joining the death eaters. "Okay I'll tell you but you have to promise me you won't tell anybody." Severus nodded and sat down. "I'm from the future. My name is Lily Luna Potter." Severus looked ready to faint. "Listen my brother broke a time turner and sent us here with no way back. Can you help us?"

Severus looked at her and smiled. "Yes."

"Thank you!" She gave him a big hug. "I really hope you can send us back."

"Are you-you Lily's?"

"I'm her granddaughter."

Severus fainted.

~~Two days later~~

It was the Friday before Christmas break.

"LUNA!" Sirius shouted. For nearly the fifteenth time, Sirius's eyebrows had burnt off in a small pile. "I quit! I Sirius Black, resign from ever playing Exploding Snap with Luna Jameson!" He threw his cards down and pouted on the couch. "Grow them back!"

Luna laughed and flicked her wand. "Honestly, you're such a baby!"

The portrait swung open and Lily and James strolled in, hand in hand, after their nighttime patrols. "Hello everyone," Lily said cheerily. "How's your day been?"

"Horrible," Sirius muttered. "But I see you and Prongs have gone public? I know both of you are already comfortable with each other."

Lily blushed and the memory of last week. Sirius had yet again walked in on them snogging on their couch. They really needed to change their password. "Prongs and I."

"We get it, you're dating him!" Luna said sarcastically.

"Padfoot and Paddiefoot, you resemble Sirius more than you do Lily!" James exclaimed. "But Moony went to the hospital wing. Said he needed a good night's sleep from last night. What're you guys doing for Christmas?"

Luna shrugged. "I'm not sure. Mum and dad are going to the states so we'll probably just stay here over break."

"Nobody should be alone for Christmas!" Sirius said.

"Yeah," James agreed. "Stay with us at Potter Manor! I'm sure my parents wouldn't mind the extra company. They're always saying how I have no friends aside from Remus, Sirius, and Peter."

"That'd be amazing!"

They all turned around at the sound of the portrait slamming shut. James looked around and saw Lily was gone. "What happened?"

Remus rolled his eyes. "Did you invite Lily to stay for break?"

James shook his head and swore. "How could I be so stupid! She lost her parents and I didn't even think to ask her! Mate she's going to break up with me!"

"Probably..." Sirius muttered.

"Padfoot, shut up!" Remus muttered nudging him in the ribs.

James got up and opened the map. "I solemnly swear I am up to no good." He saw her footprints heading up to the astronomy tower. James knew he probably couldn't run there fast enough so he ran up to his dorm and grabbed his broom. He had left his robes in the bathroom after Sirius used them to wipe smudge off his shoes so his body shivered in the December air. He spotted the redhead dangling her feet under the railing of the balcony and swooped to meet her eyes. "Hello Pretty Lady."

She did reply back.

There were rushed footsteps heading up the staircase and Sirius appeared. "Mate did I ruin the surprise?" James stared at him with a blank face. "Shit I'm sorry Prongs. I thought you already asked her before you asked Luna and them."

James quickly caught on and rolled his eyes at Sirius. "You see this is why mum doesn't tell you things! Get outta here Padfoot."

Sirius grinned and took off down the stairs.

"What did he ruin?" Lily asked, still staring at the stars.

James landed on the balcony and set his broom gently on the ground. "Well my parents wanted to meet you and they invited you to stay at Potter Manor with us. I was planning on asking you during our patrols but too many people were getting frisky tonight."

Lily laughed. "Frisky?"

"Yes. It means playful."

Lily rolled her eyes. "I was just upset. I overreacted. Sorry."

"You don't need to be Love," James put an arm around her. "I shouldn't have been so careless. You just lost your parents and I go asking other people to stay with me."

Lily looked at him and kissed him softly.

"I have an idea." He got up and picked up his broom. "Get on."

Lily stood up but looked at him hesitantly. "You know I don't like flying, James."

"On your own."

Lily slowly got on and wrapped her arms around James's torso. "You must be freezing!"

"Well I've got you, and that's all I need."

He kicked off the ground and they took off. James took her around the castle, over the Black Lake and through the quidditch hoops. James flew higher until they were above the clouds and could see the night sky clearly. Lily hugged him tighter as they went higher but loosened her grip when he started flying straight.

"My mum used to tell me to catch all the fallen stars."

"Why?"

"Because one day they'll save me from my rainy days."

"What does that mean?"

"I don't know... James I want to learn to fly. Maybe one day I'll catch a star."

"I'll teach you Lily. But you'll have to learn to stop screaming."

"I do not scream!"

James laughed and took a sharp dive towards the Gryffindor tower. Lily's high shriek rang in his ears, but he didn't care. He pulled up and smoothly landed in his dorm. "James, never do that without warning!" she exclaimed catching a breath. "Wow it's so clean!"

James laughed and set his broom down. "Moony made us pack for tomorrow so we don't miss the train. I swear if we didn't have him we'd be lost." Nobody was in the dorm and he heard no voiced from the staircase. "I wonder where everyone went. Lils, let me show you something. And it won't hurt you." He unfolded the map and lay it on the ground.

"It's a piece of parchment paper..."

"Not just a piece of parchment. We call it the Marauder's Map." James placed the tip of his wand to it. "I solemnly swear that I am up to no good." And suddenly ink began spreading through the paper until it finally formed the words.

"Messrs. Moony, Wormtail, Padfoot, and Prongs," Lily read. She gently opened the flaps and gasped at what she saw. "What is this?"

"This is how we manage to get away with everthing. This map has every square inch of Hogwarts and it knows where everybody is. It took us years to finish. It has everything, except the Room of Requirements. Moony just recently discovered it. But you can't tell anybody Lily."

"This is Bloody amazing! What other secrets are you holding Mr. Prongs?" She laughed still examining the map. She looked up and he was gone. "James?" Then he appeared out of thin air holding a silvery fabric in his hands. "Is that an invisibility cloak! I've read about those. They're so rare."

"It's a family heirloom. You asked for my secrets, but I won't give them all away."

Lily laughed and sat back down staring at the little footprints dotting about the school. A name struck her. "James, I didn't know you had cousins here."

"I don't. Almost all my family is dead." Lily pointed to a bunch dots on the map in the kitchens. Two of which were labeled: James Potter and Lily Potter. "What? But I'm right here and you haven't married me yet."

Lily raised an eyebrow. "Yet?"

"Erm...let's go down there." James grabbed the map and the two ran to the kitchens. When they entered they saw everyone in there but Sirius. Behind James a large black dog jumped onto him and started licking his cheeks.

"Snuffles!" Luna exclaimed. But her face immediately reddened.

"How'd you know that dogs name?" James asked pushing Sirius, or Snuffled, off of him.

"It's my old dogs name and that dog looks just like him," Luna said innocently.

"Snuffles go wait over there." Snuffles went and sat under Remus's chair. "Alright, Luna, if that is your name. You're a pretty damn good liar but we know the truth. Who are you really? Which one of you are really Lily and James Potter?"

The gang looked at him as if he were crazy.

"James, that's you. And it's Lily Evans," Remus said skeptically.

James groaned and lay the map down. "Look."

Everyone looked at the dots in the kitchen. Remus Lupin, Alice Prewett, Peter Pettigrew, Marlene McKinnon, Sirius Black, Lily Evans, Jillian Gillespie, Tegan Quill, Fred Weasley, Lily Potter, Albus Potter, James Potter, and another James Potter.

"Merlin!" Remus exclaimed. "The map is never wrong."

"Wait, where's Sirius?" Marlene asked.

The black dog turned to Sirius, who was still crouched under Remus's chair. "What did I say about telling me to sit under a chair Prongs? I always get stuck!"

"Shut up Padfoot!" James said. "Now tell us who you really are? Are you death eaters?"

James II shook his head. "Alright, we'll tell you. Just sit down it'll take a lot of explaining." Once everyone was settled, the future kids sitting across from everyone else, James spoke again. "We are from the future." There were gasps all around. "My name is James Sirius Potter."

"Naming your child after yourself and Sirius, Potter?" Marlene snickered.

"My brother is Albus S--"

"Albus Potter," Albus cut in. "Just Albus."

James II rolled his eyes. "And my sister is Lily Luna Potter."

"Wow James and Lily Jr.? And you call me selfish!" Sirius exclaimed.

"Our cousin is Fred Weasley II," James II continued, "And our friends are Jillian and Tegan. They kept their names."

"Wait so you're James and Lily's children?" Remus asked.

"_Grand_-children," Lily Luna corrected. "You see we were at home because it was the beginning of Christmas break, and James thought it would be fun to steal my gift! The idiot fell and broke the time turner and sent us back here."

"Hey, I wouldn't have broken it if you hadn't tackled me!"

"I wouldn't have tackled you if you never stole my gift!"

"Just like Lily and James..." Sirius said. "So future kids...am I your great uncle Sirius?"

They all looked at each other and Lily spoke. "You're dead in our time."

"Oh..."

"All of you are dead," Albus added. "You all died sometime during the war. The upcoming one and the second one. Except Alice, she dies naturally."

The others gasped. Some shocked and others near to tears. "Can you tell us what happens?" Lily I asked.

Jillian nodded. "Yes, but we won't say too much. Marlene you die first. You're entire family is murdered by death eaters. James and Lily you die next. You had a son and Voldemort came after you personally because of a prophecy. Lily you gave your life for your

son and saved him. He survived the Killing Curse and disappeared."

Lily sat there with tears. "Nobody survives the curse."

"Well our dad did, twice," James II said. "Well when Voldemort killed you guys, you were under the Fidelius Charm and you switched secret keepers last minute. That...rat who told Voldemort where you were. Sirius tried to capture the rat but he blew the street up and disappeared leaving Sirius to blame."

"Yeah and then dad's legacy began," Albus finished. "All in all, dad defeated Voldemort and made the world safe for us future kids to live in."

"Oh and Remus dies at the almost end of the second war," Lily Luna added. "But you get married before and have a son but your wife dies too. Teddy lived with dad."

"Teddy is my son?" Remus stuttered.

"Yeah, and our godbrother," James II said. "He's amazing. He's already an auror and working with dad and our Uncle Ron."

"Have you told anybody else that you were here?" Lily asked her future grandkids.

"No." Came all the replies except one.

"Well you see I may have told Severus..."

"WHAT!" everyone shouted.

"LILY!" Albus exclaimed. "You cannot tell him of all people!"

"Hey, he's your namesake and if daddy trusted him than I do too! He said he'd help us find a way home and he swore on Lily's grave he wouldn't breath a word to anybody!" The gang quieted down.

"So what's our son like?" James asked. "Is he devilishly handsome and a brilliant chaser?"

"What house was he in?" Remus asked.

"Does he like pranks?" asked Sirius.

"How are his marks? What are his friends like? Who did he marry?" Lily asked.

"He's okay for a dad," Albus answered.

"He was the youngest seeker in a century in his first year!" James bragged. "and Gryffindor of course."

"He only got in trouble ever year," Lily said. "Even if it was fighting off MoldyWarts. Dad battled him in every year except his third. He met Remus and Sirius then!"

"He had good marks," Fred II added. "Like you James," he pointed to James I, "and his friends are bloody amazing! My uncle Ron and his

wife Hermione battled by his said. And he married my dad's sister, Ginny."

"What does she do?" Marlene asked curiously.

"She played for the Holyhead Harpies but then retired when she was pregnant with James and became a writer."

James sat there amazed. "Wow. The Potters still manage to be amazing. Now tell me, is she a redhead?" All of them nodded. Brilliant! So what houses are you really in?"

"Well we're all in Gryffindor except Al," James said. "He's in Slytherin."

"Yeah, yeah, I know." Al said. "I get that look a lot. First Potter to be a Slytherin."

"Well are any of you dating?" Alice asked. "I'm sure James and Lily are dying to know." James and Lily both rolled their eyes.

"I hope one of you is dating a redheaded lady," James said with a grin.

"James is dating Jillian!" Lily Luna blurted.

"AHA!" Marlene shouted. "I knew it! Pay up boys." She held out her hand and the Marauders all paid her five galleons from their pockets. "They didn't believe you were dating but I knew. And that's twenty galleons for one Marlene McKinnon!"

The future kids laughed.

"Lily's dating a Malfoy!" James shot back.

"A MALFOY!" James and Sirius both shouted.

"Yes, and he is perfectly wonderful!"

"But he's a Malfoy Lun-Lily!" Sirius said. "I'm related to them. And they are scums! A Malfoy and Potter! Imagine that Prongsy."

"Here it comes," Albus muttered to James.

"Well Scorpius is perfect in every way. You talk about how blood line doesn't matter but titles do? Just because I'm a Potter and he's a Malfoy doesn't mean that we are our parents or grandparents! Yes my father hated his father and you hate Lucius but I love Scorpius! And he happens to be Albus's best mate! So sod off!"

The boys stared at her blankly trying to compose themselves.

"I like her," Lily said. "Name-Shmame! I'm proud my granddaughter sticks up for herself!"

"Yeah she's definitely related to you Evans," Sirius said. "Well now that that's that, how about we all go to bed."

"Finally, a wonderful idea, Black!"

19. Chapter 19: Home

Mrs. Potter opened the gates to Potter Manor dragging along a rambunctious group of teens behind her. She led them up the paved walkway while the house elves were doing some lawn maintenance. Mrs. Potter was short, only about 5'5" with shoulder length auburn and jade eyes. She resembled Lily in a way, both Lily's. Though she held two teenagers and was the only female in the house, Mrs. Potter was truly graceful. She wore a midday dress that held her figure, even at the age of 60. Her nails were freshly manicured and she wore large water bug sunglasses. She walked with elegance and confidence that Lily admired. It was Lily's second time meeting the Potters. But the first time formally.

In her fourth year Lily had yelled at James for minutes straight without realizing his parents were feet away.

James had told his parents in a letter of the previous nights events and they were thrilled to meet the future kids. When they entered the house Lily stared in awe. The future kids looked around a bit, but it was nearly the same as their home back in the future.

"Charlus!" Mrs. Potter called out, setting her purse on the foyer table.

A man, slightly older, came around the corner suited up in fresh robes and flowers. "Ah Dorea," he said kissing her. "Welcome to Potter Manor!"

Lily stared at the marble floor and smiled. "It's wonderful, you have a beautiful home Sir."

"Sir? Do I look that old? Call me Charlus! And you must be Lily Evans. James has only been talking about you since he was eleven. I remember the first letter her sent home."

Mrs. Potter nodded. "Ah yes, I can picture it clearly. I might still have it. I'll look around later on. Now James, don't be a prude and go show your guests where they'll be staying! Tea is in a half-hour dearies."

James nodded and led the way up the grand staircase. He brought them down a hall and stopped at every door. "This is my room and across is Sirius's. Next to mine is Remus, when he comes, and Albus's, and next to Sirius's will be Marlene and Lils. Next to them is gonna be James Jr. and Fred and across from that will be Lily, Jillian, and Tegan."

Everyone went into explore their rooms. Each room was white walls with Gryffindor red curtains and a large queen sized four poster bed with gold hangings. The house definitely showed their Gryffindor pride. A few rooms held Slytherin green because of Mrs. Potter, but mostly reds and golds.

James walked into his room to see that the house elf had already put his things away. His mum always told him to clean up after themselves but who was he to tell an elf not to do something. He walked back out and knocked onto Lily's door. Marlene answered. "Hey James, Lily's in the bathroom tidying things. Said something about hair care

order..."

"Alright, tell her to meet me in the kitchen." James continued down the hall stopping at everyone's room to see how they were. Once he finished the hall, he walked down to the kitchen. There was a large black kettle boiling on the stove and thirteen teacups placed on the island. There was a cough and he jumped.

"You said you wanted to see me?" Lily said.

"Yeah, I'd like to introduce you to my parents. Formally." He guided her to his father's study and knocked on the door. He heard a muffled 'enter' and slowly opened the doors. He placed his hand on the small of Lily's back and they walked in, the doors shutting behind.

"James, what can I do for you?" Mr. Potter said looking up from the Daily Prophet.

"Mum, dad, I'd like you to meet Lily Evans, my _girlfriend_."

"Girlfriend?" Mrs. Potter exclaimed.

His cheeks blushed. "Yes mum, girlfriend..."

Mrs. Potter smiled and hugged Lily tightly. "Last time I recall James said you were 'just friends'."

"Well that was weeks ago mum."

"James you haven't written us in a while. I know why now."

Lily blushed. "It's so kind to let me stay here for Christmas! Your home is bigger than I'd ever imagined."

Mr. Potter chuckled. "Thank you Lily. Tell me, how much trouble does James get into now a days?"

Lily side glanced at her boyfriend. "Well, if we're being honest here Mr-Charlus. James gets into as much trouble as I get high marks. And that's a lot. But I keep him in line, nothing too crazy under my watch."

The Potters laughed.

"You are truly a delight Lily, join us. I think the kettle should be going off," Mrs. Potter said. Lily trailed behind walking with Mr. Potter while Mrs. Potter gave James's arm a squeeze. "She's a keeper James."

"So Lily," Mr. Potter began. "What does your future look like?"

Lily thought a moment before answering, "I want to help fight in the war, but I also want to help aid others, becoming a Healer."

"You've heard of the Order of the Phoenix, correct?" The redhead nodded. "Are you going to be joining us after Hogwarts?"

"I think I just might."

"You're a lovely lady Miss Lily. You're the first girl James has brought home, you know." Lily was surprised. Out of many of James's girlfriends she was the first. "But I think you're the last."

Lily smiled and blushed intensely. There stroll through the Manor finally reached them to the kitchen where Mrs. Potter was rummaging through her tea's to brew. James played with that snitch he always carried around sitting on one of the island table chairs. He saw Lily and put away the snitch. "Hello, Lils," he said.

She walked over to him and he pulled her onto his lap. "Your parents are really something James."

Mrs. Potter picked up a swarovski glass bell and gently rang it. In almost two minutes flat everyone was in the kitchen. They sat at the dining room table while the tea pot floated around filling up their cups.

"How did you all know to come down?" Lily asked.

"Well our mum uses the bell for dinner," Albus said. "It was passed down from you great-gran."

Mrs. Potter wrinkled her nose at the name. "I don't like that word. 'Great', call me GmaP." Everyone around the table laughed. "So tell me about yourselves kids! Something new so other won't get bored. You can tell us family stuff later."

Next to her Lily Luna sat holding her teacup. "Well James's graduating this year and I'm shoe in for quidditch captain next year."

"Runs in the blood," James said. "What about you Albus? Are you going to be captain for Slytherin?"

"Let's hope. But my mate Scorpius has been itching for the spot."

"Al's in line for Head Boy," Lily Luna said. "With Alice Longbottom."

"Is that Alice and Franks gran-daughter?" Mrs. Potter asked stirring some milk into her tea.

>Lily Luna nodded. "Is she someone special, Albus?"<p>

He only blushed. But James spoke up. "You know who Head Boy is this year? Me." The table burst into laughter. "No seriously! This is the same reaction my family at home did, too. Is it that hard to believe?"

Jillian stroked his cheek, "Sorry James but it is."

"I don't know what McGonagall was thinking!" Tegan said. "She was probably drunk."

Sirius let out a bark laugh. "I would pay to see Minnie drinking. She's so uptight it's surprising she even knows what firewhiskey is."

There was a pop and something dropped from the sky right outside the gates of Potter Manor. James and his parents rushed to the window and saw a man laying there. He stood up and began pacing and James immediately grabbed his wand. Lily Luna looked through the other window and saw a the unforgettable turquoise hair that was the one and only, Teddy Lupin's. She ran out the front door leaving the rest speechless.

Teddy stood up, his head throbbing from the fall. "Where the bloody hell am I?" he looked at the gates and saw the gigantic P. He was at Potter Manor. But he had just traveled from there. The gates were slowly opening and he saw a small redhead running towards him. "TEDDY!" she exclaimed koala hugging him.

It took a minute to figure out what was happening but in no time he hugged her back almost to tears. "Lily! Where have you been! The world's gone mad at your disappearance. Where are the others? James, Al?"

Lily jumped down and hugged him once more. "They're inside. But I should let you know-

Someone was behind them and coughed. "Hello Lily, is this the Scorpius you were talking about?" Teddy turned around and at one look fainted on the spot. Remus Lupin stood there completely shocked. "Was it something I said?"

Lily sighed and shook her hair. "Just you. Would you?"

"Aguamenti," he said. A stream of water spurt out of his wand and Teddy immediately woke up. "Lily?"

"Come on Edward, I think we should introduce you to some people."

Teddy scratched his head and looked at her curiously. "Ed...?" Nobody in the future addressed him by his first name, ever. The only time was when a man read his grandmothers will. There was a hand on his shoulder and Remus asked, "You okay mate?" he nodded and followed Lily to the Manor.

Once inside James and Sirius stood there with their wands at the ready. Lily Luna crossed her arms and stood in front of a dazed and confused Teddy. "Hold your Hippogriffs! He's from the future, he's family."

James and Sirius lowered their wands but still stood tall.

"Bring him to the living room," Mrs. Potter said fixing a wet towel. "Oh hello Remus, lovely too see you again."

"And I you." He took the towel Mrs. Potter handed him and gave it to the strange boy. "So what's your name?"

"Teddy," he said taking the towel.

Remus now looked as if he were going to faint. Lily mentally slapped herself and buried her head into her hands.

Remus immediately sat down on the table across from him. "Teddy

Lupin?"

The turquoise haired boy looked up and turned to Lily Luna who nodded her head. "Yes."

"But you look nothing like him," Sirius said. "Except the eyes, and the noses."

"Sirius shut up!" Lily exclaimed. "You can't accuse someone of false identity."

"Well I'm a metamorphmagus." His hair changed back to it's natural sandy blonde hair.

"I see it now..." Sirius said.

"Everyone, let's give them time alone," Lily said. "I think they need it." She took James's hand and they all walked into the kitchen.

Teddy and Remus sat there for awhile in silence. Remus didn't know what to say to his son that he'd never met. Teddy also contemplated what to say. He was older than his father, was merely 17 while he himself was 23.

"I'm sorry," Remus said quietly. "I left you, me and whom ever my wife was."

"It's okay," Teddy said. "You did what you had to."

"No it's not! You were raised parentless!"

"I had Harry and Ginny and my grandmother. She passed when I was seven but I was raised okay."

Remus looked close to tears. "Are-are you a-"

"No." he answered already knowing the question. "I'm not, but I get sore and cranky around the full moon."

There were a few more minutes and all the sadness went away. "Tell me about yourself Teddy, I want to know everything while I have the time. Who was your mum? What house? What do you do?"

Teddy smiled. "Well my mum I'll tell you later, it's quite shocking. I'm twenty-three. I was a Gryffindor, Head Boy and prefect for two years. I was quidditch captain and won the House Cup. I played chaser. My favorite subject was DADA. After I graduated Hogwarts I became an auror. My Uncle Harry said he could get me into high rankings almost immediately but I didn't think that was right. He didn't think I could do it without his help. So I started from the bottom and trained my way almost to his level just to prove him wrong. I'm also engaged and my wedding is in May."

"Bloody hell Moony!" Sirius exclaimed from the door frame. "You're son's bloody amazing! But I didn't catch who your mum was."

"Sirius, you were just the person I wanted to talk too as well," Teddy said. "You see my mum is your cousin. Nymphadora Tonks."

Sirius almost choked. "Dora! She's only three! Remus!"

Remus stood up in defense. "I don't control these things! We're obviously not going to marry anytime soon." Sirius calmed down slightly. "Right?" Teddy nodded. "I'm so happy I get to meet you. And I'm so proud of you! Your mum is too, even if she can't spell yet."

Teddy gave him a hug and wiped a tear that fell.

"Well lads, who's up for a game of quidditch?" James asked.

"I think I have time to kill," Teddy said getting up.

The kids were divided into two teams. James and James II as captains.

James's team consisted of: Albus as seeker, himself and Teddy, as chasers, Tegan as beater and Fred as keeper. James II's team was: Lily as seeker, himself and Jillian as chasers, Sirius as beater, and Marlene and keeper. Lily and Remus were on the ground, where they like to be, watching them fly above with Mr. and Mrs. Potter. Teddy had decided he would bring all the future kids back home after dinner.

Around five, the game still going on, Lily helped Mrs. Potter prepare dinner when there was another sound of apparition. Another body fell from the sky followed with a sting of what sounded like french curse words. Lily Evans stared out the window and called over Mrs. Potter. "I think it's raining time travelers today, Dorea."

"Let's let her in." She pushed a button and the iron gates opened. The blonde walked in and was greeted by the front door. "Hello, I'm Dorea Potter and this is Lily Evans."

"Bloody hell!" she murmured. "Hello, I'm Victoire W-Wren!"

"Are you from the future as well?" Lily asked curiously.

Victoire nodded. "You didn't by chance see a blue haired boy and three other children, did you?"

Mrs. Potter smiled. "Come in dear, we're just fixing up dinner."

Victoire smiled and walked into the Manor. She gasped at it's elegance. Now Potter Manor was more family friendly than the extravagant glamorous home she was in now. "I'm Victoire Weasley, lovely to meet you two, again."

"We know we're going to die, but thank you for sparing our feelings," Mrs. Potter said. "Would you start kneading the dough?" She pointed to a large ball on the counter. Victoire nodded and washed her hands. She didn't know what to say and what not to anymore. "We know the three Potter children and Remus's child, Teddy."

"What about me?" Remus asked stepping in from the yard.

"Ah Remus! This is Victoire, she is another time traveler. She's a

Weasley."

Remus smiled and shook her hand. "Nice to meet you Victoire."

"And I you!" she stared at him and almost broke into tears.

"What brings you here?" Remus asked sitting on one of the island chairs.

"Well I was supposed to leave with Teddy but I don't know what happened and I suppose I got stuck in time. It took me awhile but I realized Teddy slipped out from the time turner. It's very complicated."

"So are you related to my grandchildren?" Lily asked. It felt nice to say that, but it also felt weird. She was only seventeen and she supposedly had grandchildren.

"I'm their eldest cousin. There are lots of us Weasley's. Mrs. Potter, what is this dough for?"

"Treacle Tart. It's James and Sirius's favorite thing in the world. I thought I'd treat them with it."

Another half-hour passed and the gang came back inside to rest and shower. But they didn't expect to see the blonde veela standing there stirring the cauldron.

"Victoire?" Lily stopped at the door. James and Albus looked up at the name and Teddy ran up to her and picked her up.

"Vicky!" he exclaimed swinging her around. He cupped her face and gently kissed her lips. "I wondered where you ventured off too."

Victoire frowned. "I wouldn't have been stuck if you never let go!"

"Oh come off it Vick, you can't expect him to spend his bachelor months with you all the time!" James II teased.

Victoire crossed her arms and turned away from Teddy.

Lily smiled at them, then at Remus. "Teddy, is this your fiancée?"

Teddy met eyes with his father. "Yes. Dad this is Victoire. I'm going to marry her in spring."

Remus sat down again in total shock. He had just spent the past hour with the girl learning things he never knew from her and hearing stories of Teddy in his youth. "She's absolutely wonderful."

After dinner everyone huddled in the living room for the future children's departure. Lily was tearing up and leaned against James's shoulder. Marlene and Sirius stood side by side saying their farewells to the kids and Remus took Victoire aside.

"I know I won't be able to say this in the future, but I am happy you're the beautiful young woman my son will love for the rest of his

life. I give you my blessing."

Victoire wrapped him into a hug, her tears spilling onto his jacket. "Thank you, thank you Remus."

They rejoined the others who were also tearing up.

"GmaP," James II said with a laugh, "You are by far my favorite Potter. And I think that goes for all of us." The three Potters gave her a huge hug and then to Charlus. "James, Sirius, Remus, it was wicked getting to meet the Marauders. My life goal has been completed!"

Lily Luna gave her deceased grandmother a hug and then Marlene. "I love you guys."

Lily and James talked with Jillian and James II. "You are really something James," Lily said wiping a tear. "You are really a great friend Jillian."

"Yeah, and you helped Lily and I get together which I cannot be more thankful for," James said. "We'll miss you."

Teddy gave one last hug to his father. "See you in the far future dad."

They all huddled around Victoire and with one last look, they disappeared.

There was a tap at his window and a white bird sat hovered. Severus let the bird in and it dropped a letter on the table before flying away quickly. He stared at the letter and knew that handwriting. Lily Luna. He didn't spend hours in the library helping her and read about time travel and not pick up her traits. He undid the twine bow and sat in his reading chair while unfolding the letter.

_Dear Severus, _

_My godbrother Teddy has come and we are going home to the future. Thank you for being my friend at Hogwarts even though nobody approved. You helped me ace my essays, which I didn't even need to do. You'll always be my best friend in 1977. _

20. Chapter 20: The Dark Lord

There was a thud and they spun out of control. They all landed across the floor of Potter Manor.

"Did it work?" James II asked.

"No," James I's said standing over them. He gave them a hand up and they sat in the living room. "Now what?"

"I don't know...Jillian? You're smart."

Jillian rolled her eyes. "Well I suppose we spend Christmas break here. If that's okay with you, Mrs. Potter."

"Wouldn't have it any other way," Dorea said.

The kids headed back upstairs and huddled up in James's room. Lily Luna was distracted by all the quidditch players zooming around on his posters. "James, these are brilliant! Worth a fortune in our time."

"Really? Mum said she got them on sale from a friend. Bargained the posters for a me at their tryouts next year."

Sirius laughed. "Why would you play for Puddlemore Unites? The Chudley Cannons are obviously the best."

"So what should we do?" Lily said.

"Let's go to Diagon Alley tomorrow," Marlene suggested. "I need to finish my Christmas shopping and there's something we can all do."

"James and I are going to HoneyDukes," Lily said taking his hand. "We'll be back in a bit for lunch. Three Broomsticks?" The others nodded. "So James, I have something very serious I need to talk to you about."

James sighed. "You're not breaking up with me, are you?" he asked.

Lily laughed. "No silly, I need to know what Remus's favorite chocolate is. Chances are Teddy's favorite is Remus's too. You and Sirius are the only ones who'd know."

"Chocolate Frogs, a definite favorite. Or the chocolate Bertie Bots jelly beans, but you'd have to pick them individually."

"Alright, what about Sirius? I have no clue what to buy him! I was thinking something quidditch but I have no idea."

James chuckled. "Pitch in and let's buy him the new Nimbus broom. They say it's the fastest broom yet."

"Fifty-Fifty?"

"Are you sure you have that money Lils?"

"When my parents died, they split their money half between Petunia and I in their will. I split half of mine and turned half of it into wizarding money. I think I'll treat my friends this year."

James kissed his girlfriend. "You are the smartest witch I've ever met."

"So I've been told."

"I wish Scorpius was here," Lily Luna said. "All these couples. I wonder if he thinks I'm ignoring his owls or if he knows we're missing!"

"Lily calm down. According to Teddy, our one week here has been about two or three days there," Albus said. "Besides, I don't want to hear your Scorpius details. Save it for Jillian."

Lily stuck her tongue out at him. "I'm going to the quidditch shop." She walked in seeing Lily and James purchasing what looked like a broom. "Hello guys! Fancy seeing you here."

Lily smiled down at her. "Hey Luna, we're just about done shopping. How's your day going?"

"So-So. I miss home though."

Lily put a kind arm on her shoulder. "The Potters will do everything they can to send you home. Merlin forbid anything that prevents it. But in the mean time, should we head to lunch? James?"

"Yeah lunch always sounds good," James said. He shrunk the wrapped broom to be pocket size and slipped into one of Lily's bags along with the chocolate. "Shall we?"

The three headed over to the Three Broomsticks and grabbed a table near the back and waited for the others to arrive. Sirius and Marlene were next and then Albus and Tegan. They ordered butterbeer and it came along with Jillian, James II, and Fred II. The last to come, around eleven-thirty, was Teddy, Remus, and Victoire. The joined two more tables to the original and ordered their food. The conversation brewing was about Mrs. Potter's annual ball.

"Mum always makes everything a huge deal," James said. "She'll have us all fitted for dress robes and for you girls she finds dresses for you. It's on Christmas Eve, by the way. I don't know if you'll still be here for it." He looked over at the future kids.

"Well mum can't say we missed it," James II said.

After another hour about the town they headed back to Potter Manor. Just in time. Everyone settled back in when Mrs. Potter called James and Sirius down into the study.

"Mum, where's dad?" James asked.

"Yeah, he's always home on Saturday's," Sirius said closing the door behind him.

She looked up from the Daily Prophet, her eyes lined with water. "Boys, there was an attack in Diagon Alley. Your father went to the Ministry. You-Know-Who's army is rising, I don't want you leaving anywhere outside the Manor this break. Understand me boys?"

"Mum, what about-"

"No James!" James was taken back. His parents rarely snapped at him, maybe three times in his whole lifetime. "I'm sorry, but it's for the best. I've owled the Lupins and McKinnons about this."

"Dorea, there have been attacks around England before with the Death Eaters, what's so special about this one?" Sirius said picking up the newspaper.

"They're looking for you James."

James looked up at his mothers eyes, her cheeks wet from her tears. "Me?"

She nodded. "Your father refused You-Know-Who again and things ended badly. He wants to end our family James, and that's going to happen over my dead body. Merlin, I don't know what would happen if they found out your grandchildren are here! He could ruin the future we're fighting for."

"Mum, I need to help fight! I need to protect you and dad and Lily!" James exclaimed.

"You will not disobey me. You will not step a foot outside of these doors. Do you hear me?" Sirius and James nodded. "I might cancel the ball. Now, I don't want the others to worry too much about this, so don't tell them about him looking for you James. Sirius, I want you to stick with James. Charlus. I don't even know what he's thinking right now. The Ministry might send him off with other aurors again." She shed more tears. "I just want my boys to be safe." From either side the boys hugged her as she sobbed.

James and Sirius left the study and headed back upstairs. They went into James's room and sat down.

"Mate, we could've been killed today," James said.

"But we weren't. The Death Eaters are too stupid. Especially since Regulus joined."

"How about we sneak out tonight?"

Sirius met his eye with the same mischievous smirk. "You know Hollingsworth is throwing a party tonight. He sent an owl earlier today. He didn't say where though, but I sorta remember where he lives."

"Maybe Lily would know."

They headed across the hall to where Lily and Marlene were. Sirius gave a faint knock before opening the door. Both girls were in the midst of curling Lily's hair. "Don't you boys knock!" Marlene shouted. "It's like living with monkeys! At least they know how to wait..."

"We did!" Sirius said. He knocked on the door. "See?"

"What do you want?"

"We have a proposal." Lily turned around, suddenly engaged in the conversation. "Let's go to a party. Some of James's and I friends are throwing one but I don't remember the town. Codewearth or something like that."

"Cokeworth?" Lily asked.

"YES! That's it! How'd you know?"

"It's my hometown. Don't tell me you went to the Hollingsworth's parties, too."

"You know him?" James asked. "He throws the best parties at Hogwarts! Even if he is a Hufflepuff."

"Lily used to date him," Marlene said. "Summer before fifth year, I believe. The one relationship you didn't know about."

James frowned. "You did?" Lily nodded. "Okay, that's fine. I don't care."

They all turned around when Remus and Teddy came in, soon followed by the rest of the future kids. All of them made themselves comfortable in Lily and Marlene's room. They were all talking about the party and minding their own business. But Marlene, on the other hand, lost it when Sirius pushed James into her desk sending everything flying.

"That's it! All of you out! One person comes in and it turns into a whole reunion! Honest to Godric, learn some manners people and get out!"

Everyone evacuated the room in less than a minute. Sirius popped his head in daringly and said in a rushed shout, "We leave at eight!"

"How're we getting there?" Lily Luna asked.

"Remus and I passed the apparation test," James said.

"So did Teddy, Victoire, James and Jillian," Albus said. "We should all be fine."

"Ready?" Remus asked.

On the count of three, all of them disappeared with a faint pop.

Hours later, the house was filled with black smoke, figures swooshing around the room. Screams were heard from every corner when the aurors appeared. The smoke was cleared and the black cloaks were gone in a flash. People lay on the ground, either knocked out from a spell or from all the smoke filling their lungs. Everyone was safe. Almost everyone.

21. Chapter 21: Captured

"What do you want from us?" Jillian shouted, thrashing her arms in attempt to be relieved of the metal shackles chaining her to the wall.

A hooded man stood in the center of the room. The kids trapped on each corner. His scaly voice echoed sending chills upon everyone's spine. "You are going to bring me James Potter and Lily Evans."

"We don't know them!" Albus shouted. "They just go to school with us, we barely associate with them!"

"Yeah!" Lily Luna exclaimed. "He's too much of a loser to talk with the Marauders."

"Hey!"

"Shut up! I know you're from the future and I will not hesitate to kill you." He apparated out and left them to rot.

"Jillian, what happened?" Lily Luna asked.

"I don't know. We were at the party and then there was a fire. And people were appearing and then someone grabbed me. I saw Sirius try to reach for me but it was too late. All I know is that man cannot know who we are. I wonder where James is...if he's okay."

"JAMES!" Dorea shouted. "You are never leaving this house again! Do you realize you have been targeted for murder! You've been tried to be killed twice in the same day!"

"Mum, we can't focus on this right now. Albus, Luna, and Jillian are missing and who knows what could be happening to them. You can't lock me up now!"

"Watch me."

Upstairs they all sat huddled around James II. He lay on his bed his face rudolph red. "This is all my fault. If I didn't touch the stupid time turner we never would've been here and my siblings and girlfriend wouldn't be held captive by Voldemort! He's dead in our time, I could prevent us from being born!"

"James, it'll be okay," Lily said touching his shoulder gently. "We'll find them and save them."

"You don't know that! I screw up all the time! I've already fucked up the future!" He buried his head in his pillow and screamed.

Lily looked at James.

"Hey mate, we'll find them," James said comfortingly. "I'll sneak into my dad's study and find out what their lead is. Maybe it'll lead us to You-Know-Who. He wants me. As long as we can trick him, than everyone will be safe."

"Goodnight kids," Dorea said before heading to bed.

That's when the plan was set into action. James, Remus, Teddy, and James II snuck downstairs into Mr. Potter's study. Fred II, and Sirius stood guard. The girls waited impatiently upstairs for them all to return with the information. They were the brains that would put the pieces together.

"James!" Remus exclaimed. Both boys turned around. "James's, I guess. I found the files. Your father should really know to not leave around his brief case. Let's go before we get caught."

The four left the room and then all seven snuck upstairs as quiet as possible. If either Mr. or Mrs. Potter heard them, they'd be gonners. They rushed into Lily and Marlene's room and shut the door behind. James II cast a silencing spell around the room and joined the rest. Lily opened the files and read them over, her face resolving into a frown.

"What?" James asked. "Lils, what is it?"

"It's got nothing!" she exclaimed. "They've got no lead on where he could've taken them. All it says is that three kids went missing!"

James II snatched the papers and crumpled them up angrily. "What the hell!" he threw them into the fireplace and watched them burn to ashes.

"James, we'll find them," Teddy reassured. "We're not leaving until we get them back."

James shoved Teddy away from him and punched the wall. "Bullocks..." He aided his hand and slid down against the wall. "They could be anywhere in the world."

"Wait, don't you and Albus have that mirror?" Victoire asked.

James's face lit up. "Victoire you are a genius!"

The others sat there puzzled until Sirius pulled a piece of glass from his pocket. "James Potter." Both James's pockets buzzed. They each pulled their mirror out and saw Sirius's face appear. "Merlin's left ball! It worked."

James II immediately shouted into the mirror, "ALBUS POTTER" and they waited anxiously to see his face.

"What's that noise?" Lily asked in a whisper.

"It's the mirror dad gave to James and I!" Albus said. "I can't reach it! Stupid death eaters did something smart for once."

"ALBUS?" came James II voice.

"JAMES!" Jillian shouted. "Is that you?"

"Yes, yes! Merlin, are you guys alive?"

"No James, three ghosts are talking to you! YES WE'RE ALIVE, YOU IDIOT!"

"This isn't time for your sarcasm," Teddy's voice shouted.

"Okay, we'll just wait around for when it is time!"

"Do you remember seeing anything on your way to his hideaway?" Remus's voice asked calmly.

"I remember water," Lily said. "I remember being dropped in salt water and then some woman yelling."

"I remember being carried down steps and there were these flowers," Jillian said.

"That's it. I don't remember anything since we apparated here. But this man, I think Voldemort, said he wants James and Lily. He keeps coming in and saying "it's almost time", but I don't know what that means." There were footsteps echoing getting louder by the second. "We've gotta go!"

The others sat there staring at the mirror.

"Steps, flowers, salt water..." Lily said quietly.

"They're at the beach," Teddy said. "There's one at the end of Godrics Hollow. We go during summers. I know where they are! Come on."

22. Chapter 22: The Cave

"Teddy we've been here for two hours and we haven't found anything!" Victoire complained. "They're not here."

"They have to be!" James II exclaimed. "They can't not be here." There was a decline from the grass to sand and rocks lined up against the side. James sat on it and groaned. "I need to find them before mum and dad find out." He picked at the flowers that grew from inside the rocks and picked the petals. "Let's just go home." He got up but Teddy pushed him back down. "What the hell!"

A few rocks slid out of place and James had fallen onto a stick. It crushed under his weight and dug into his back.

"Teddy, why'd you do that?" Remus asked, helping James up.

"We can't leave. We're so close, I can feel it!" Teddy said. "Wait...hide!"

He led them around the corner, all of them peeking their heads ever so slightly over. Two men in black stood where they just had. They seemed to be arguing about something, but they were too far to understand. One of them moved the rock where the stick James broke was lodged. The rocks all moved, much like the bricks that led to Diagon Alley. It led to a staircase leading down, the flowers glowing to show the way.

"FOLLOW THEM!" James II said in a harsh whisper. He snuck down after them and quietly followed all the way down. The hole had closed by the time the others got their. It was too late now. It was up to them, or James.

James walked down the narrow hallways until he reached the door the others had gone through. He heard footsteps coming his way. The only option was to go back, or face them. He wasn't going to do either. The men came back out and left without a hint James was there. He was on the ceiling, his arms and legs holding him up on either side of the walls. He slowly came back down and explored the area. He saw a few doors that led to nothing but one struck him. It had no locks, or a handle for all the matter.

He walked towards it but could feel the dark magic. He shrugged and walked into it. The doors opened for him and he ran in before someone would hear. He ran down the hall until the end where there was cell bars. Below were his siblings and Jillian all chained up. There were currently whispering about something, but it was too quiet for a dog to hear. James was about to break the bars when a cold hand touched his neck. He was yanked up and face to face with the darkest wizard in the world.

"Potter..." he muttered.

"That's the name, don't wear it out..." James joked. He wasn't afraid, just creeped out. All he could think about was that he had no nose.

"Follow me. And stop staring at my face..." He threw James down and one of his death eaters picked him up and dragged him by the arm. They walked into a room and sat him down, chains immediately wrapping around his legs and arms.

"Nice place you have," he said easing the tension. "I really like the mold molding and musky scent you have."

"Enough small talk, Potter, where is Ms. Evans? The mudblood you say you would die for."

He thinks I'm James...James thought. A smirk formed on his face and he stared at The Dark Lord. "Um, I don't know. I broke up with her."

Voldemort stared at him long and hard. "WHAT?"

"Yeah, she was a little too clingy. But I came here to help save my fellow classmates." Voldemort still stared him down, almost zoning out. But really he was trying to enter James's brain. Though James was very smart, he rarely had a thought in his brain that wasn't a prank. All he could see was James trying to throw a dungbomb at his face. But he finally broke through James's barrier and saw everything.

"YOU LIE!" he shouted, his wand pointed at his face. "Lock him up with the others. This is the other James Potter, the future child." James sighed in defeat. "Tell me where they are!" James just sat there. "Cruico." He fell over doubling in pain, the feeling of flaming hot knives searing into his body washed over and he screamed in pain. His father had told him stories about the cruciatus curse. The feeling like you're being stabbed a million times over, each knife twisting in every which way. James didn't want to scream but he couldn't hold it in. But he wasn't going to give away James and Lily. He would never. "Tell me!"

James flopped over, barley, and looked at him in the eyes. Pure evil. He opened his mouth, muttering something. Voldemort squatted down and grabbed him by the collar. "What, boy?"

"I-I'll never t-tell you, y-you dick."

Voldemort released his grip and continued to torture him.

The three sat in the dim lighting hearing the footsteps draw closer. The door opened and in came the men holding James. They looked up and started shouting, but James never looked at them. His head was down and he was barley walking his own. He was chained and sat there.

James knew they were there. He was ecstatic to see they were still alive, but he was too disappointed in himself to look them in the eyes. Voldemort could see right through him. He brought them here in

the first place. Everything his father worked for would be gone if he found James and Lily. The small bits of hair that were usually swooped up with gel were now hanging in front of his face. Through it, though, he could see Lily across the room. Her face was all scratched and she had bruises on her arms. He peered over at Albus. He was holding up, probably reading stories to himself from memory. He didn't even want to look at Jillian. Her blonde hair was filled with dirt and her pale skin was covered in dust and some bloody on her legs. He looked at himself. The Cruciatus curse was used on him at least four times. His muscles were weak, his bones felt like mush.

"What's written on his arm?" Lily asked quietly.

His arms hung high, his wrists smashed between the shackles. On his left forearm a small trail of blood was leading down to his collarbone. There was something written but it was hard to read from a distance. Albus, however, knew what happened. His Aunt Hermione told him about what this Bellatrix did when he asked about her faint scar when he was thirteen.

"It says Blood Traitor," Jillian said.

They sat in silence again.

23. Chapter 23: Harry Potter

There was a flash and five people stood in Potter Manor. James and Remus were first to arrive, wands at the ready. Teddy came running in after and nearly cried. "Uncle Harry!" He ran over and hugged the man.

"Teddy, who are these people?" James asked, his wand still clenched tightly.

"I'm Harry, Harry Potter," Harry said.

James fainted.

"Harry, as in James and Lily's son?" Remus asked. Harry nodded. "Bloody Hell!"

"We're looking for our children," Ginny said. Teddy and Remus's faces fell. "Where are my babies?!"

"Aunt Ginny," Teddy said soothingly, leading her to the couch. The others followed and sat, waiting for someone to speak. "Jillian, Albus, Lily, and James were captured by Voldemort and are in some sort of cave by the beach."

Ginny's face flushed, a mix of sadness and anger boiling up. "WHAT!"

James had revived and stood at a fairly good distance before speaking. "We're doing everything we are to find them ma'am."

The others had come down the stairs to see what the commotion was about. It was Harry's time to faint now. He stood up at the sight of his mother. "James, who are these people?" she asked.

"These are our family, Lils," James said walking over to her.

Sirius led everybody out of the room to give James and Lily time with Harry. He explained to them what had happened at the party and when James ran into the cave. The other three had rejoined them after a while. When nobody gasped when Sirius spoke or cried when Remus and Teddy both said something in unison, they began to divulge into their plan.

"Harry, what if we start finding the horcruxes?" Ron suggested. "We know what they are and where they are!"

"No," Hermione said. "It would mess up the fabric of time. Ginny hasn't even been possessed! He probably hasn't even had the snake for long anyways."

"She's right Ron. Besides, he's not even at his strongest point yet. He's just starting to reign his power."

"I say we block the entrance and all attack. How big can this place be?" Sirius said.

"We can ask James, maybe he's hiding out somewhere," Fred II suggested. "He's got the mirror on him."

"If he's hiding than we could blow his cover," Lily said. "What about Albus, we could try to contact him. He's probably seen the place if he's been there for two days."

"Good idea," Remus said. Sirius handed him his mirror and they all hovered above it. "Albus Potter."

"Hello?" Albus said. "Remus?"

"ALBUS!" a voice shouted.

"Mum? How are you here?"

"Are you guys okay? Oh my Merlin I'll kill him!"

"Mum, we're okay. We're in this big room. James just came in a few hours ago, but he hasn't said a word since he was dragged in. He's bleeding bad from his arm and leg. He's alive, though! He moves now and then. Lily's okay, she's been playing with a butterfly that flew in a while ago. Jillian and I are trying to figure out what's happening."

"What does the place look like?" Sirius's voice asked.

"It's all rock. The only light in the room is a few light bulbs hanging. That's all we've seen. I reckon James has seen more than us. But I think he can't hear us. Jillian thinks he has a silencing charm around him. We've tried shouting to him but the only time he looks up is when What's his name comes back. He gives us food, sometimes. A few crackers and a dixie cup full of water. He wants us alive but I think he'll kill us eventually."

"Don't say that!" Ginny shouted. "I didn't raise you to give up like that! You're going to fight as much as you can until we get

there."

"We're coming to save you," James and Lily said. "We'll do anything!"

"Ah, James, come with me," said a slimy voice.

The black screen on the mirror faded and they saw their reflections. They sat there, all knowing that voice. Harry grabbed the closest thing to him, which was a vase, and smashed it against the wall. He buried his head in his palms.

Lily sat beside him, rubbing his back gently. "Harry, we'll get them safely. I know James and I weren't there for you in your childhood, and I'm so sorry about Petunia. You didn't deserve her anger. But we're going to find them, it's the best thing James and I can do for you."

Harry looked up. "You saved my life, you're the reason I'm alive today," he said. "You haven't done nothing. You've done everything!"

Lily smiled. "We love you so much." She held James's hand and rested her head on Harry's shoulder. "Everything will be okay. I won't leave this planet until they're safe."

Harry let a few tears run. For eleven years he never had been held by a mother and been told everything would be okay. The closest thing he had was Molly, but she wasn't the same. Sirius was the closest thing he ever had to a relative, to his parents.

"Okay, we've got a plan!" Sirius said.

James was barley holding on to his sanity. Voldemort had taken each of them but he knew they weren't tortured as bad as he was. Voldemort specifically picked on him. James assumed it was because of his smart-arse comments. He didn't care though, better him than his family. He believed he deserved every knife, punch, and curse he got. He just had to take Lily's time turner. Granted he didn't mean to fall, but he brought them here. He didn't say no to going to the party. He couldn't grab Lily fast enough. He couldn't do anything right. He would be okay with dying, but he couldn't knowing his family would too. He was ready to sacrifice himself for the sake of his family. What would the difference be? Albus could be more popular, Lily would have a closer relationship with Albus, Teddy would be like the older brother, and his parents would have less letters from McGonagall. He felt something in his hair, though, itching at his neck. He knew exactly what it was. Jillian's bobby pin.

_"James, hold this," she said, handing him the gold bobby pin.

_

_"What's this?" he asked examining it. _

_"It holds back my hair." _

_James looked in the mirror and bent down. he pulled back some of his hair and slid the pin in. It stayed, much to his surprise. Nothing held back his hair. "I like it." _

_Jillian laughed and grabbed another pin from her pouch. She put it in her hair and stood up. "Now we're matching." She kissed him and played with his hair. "You know, you look really sexy with that."

_

"I'm always sexy."

_"Hey, get a room," Lily Luna said walking by. _

_"You're in our room," James said. _

"Whatever, we're leaving for the party soon. So if you two want to do it, you've got five minutes."

_"Get out!" _

He could hear Lily's laugh down the hall ringing in his head. He could feel Jillian's kiss on his lips. Then suddenly, he didn't want to die anymore. He didn't want Albus to grow up without an older brother. He didn't want anyone else to pick on Lily's boyfriends. He didn't want Jillian to kiss any other boys. His mouth formed a smirk. He heard footsteps come down the hall again and a pair of feet were placed in his sight. He wanted to barf. He lifted his head, the look of pain and sorrow gone. He found the strength, somehow, to get up when his shackles were released. he followed Voldemort out, ready for the next string of curses to be thrown at him. He wasn't afraid, he had something to live for.

After ten minutes, James lay on the ground, the pain traveling head to toe. But he clenched his fists together. He was taken back to the room and chained up again. His wrists were swollen and his face all bloody but nothing could hold back the smirk on his face.

Jillian looked over at him. She couldn't imagine what he'd been through. She'd gotten the curciatus curse and a few slaps but she never came back as beaten as James. None of them had. But James wasn't crying or anything, she could just barley make out the smirk on his face. The lights glared off his hand, something shiny in it. And suddenly, she didn't feel scared anymore.

24. Chapter 24: Hero

They all crowded behind the rocks waiting for the death eaters to leave. Around seven, three men came out and headed to the pub across the street. That's when they made their move. Remus and Teddy had found that the rocks were the only entrance and exit to the place. Harry opened the cave and stood at the top. Everyone stood behind him, wands at the ready. Fred II and Tegan, however, were supposed to stay back. Hermione insisted it was too dangerous for them to enter and insisted they stay back at the Manor with Dorea.

Harry took a step in and soon they were all in the cave, the door closing behind them. Ron, Teddy and Remus agreed to stay back and stand guard. The rest kept going deeper in. They reached the window and stared at the kids below. Albus was sleeping, his chest rising with even breaths. Jillian and Lily were talking. And James, just sat there motionless. Ginny thought the worst.

"Welcome!" said a voice.

They all turned around, wands out.

Voldemort didn't do anything but simply walked away. They stood there, debating whether to follow or not. Ultimately Harry followed him. They were brought to the room where the children were. Jillian and Lily's eyes lit up at the sight of Harry. They tried to shout but all Harry could see was their mouths moving.

"I have to give it to you Harry," Voldemort said. "You're children are strong. The eldest especially. I think I've cursed him fifty times! Not a word."

Ginny gasped. "Reducto!" It nearly hit him, but Voldemort deflected it just in time.

"Like mother like daughter..."

Death eaters appeared on the spot and the battle begun. The room lit up with different spells. The room expanded and Voldemort apparated out. In about five minutes, the death eaters were gone. Ron, Teddy, and Remus ran into the room exhausted.

"What happened?" Teddy gasped. "Five death eaters came out of nowhere and attacked. Are you guys okay?"

"Yeah," Hermione said. They looked around the room. All the kids stared at them. Except James. His head still hung low. "Is he...?"

"I don't know," Harry said.

The death eaters re-appeared and took each of them by the necks. They were taken to the next room, wands at their necks.

"Is he going to kill them?" Albus asked quietly.

"I don't know," Lily said. "James?"

They shut up when someone came in. His face was covered by a mask but his greasy hair wasn't unseen by Lily Luna. He came to all of them and undid their shackles, freeing them. None could walk, though, but they were free again. They rubbed their wrists and tried to move. But James was still chained. Snape went over to him for a few minutes, but didn't unchain him. He just headed to the door for a quick escape.

"Thank you," Lily managed to whisper.

A large man appeared at the door. Snape apparated before Fenrir could see who he was. Fenrir grabbed all three of them and dragged them to the next room where Voldemort had them captured. He dropped them onto the floor in the middle of the room and stood over them.

"Bastard," Albus muttered rubbing his head.

"Where's James?" Ginny said to herself.

Lily Evans looked at her with sorrow, her face in tears. "I'm so

sorry Ginny..."

"So James is dead?" Voldemort said with a smile. "What a loss, I would have loved to see it. Well, I can still see James and Lily die. Round them up, men."

The death eaters dragged the adults to the other side of the room while two others put James and Lily side by side against the wall.

In the other room James felt his hands again. The swelling had gone down and gave him enough room to move around. He picked at the lock and finally his arms fell down, his body collapsing. He felt something behind him, the thing Severus left him. His eye sight was blurry and his arms barley had any circulation, but he grabbed it before his body gave in.

Voldemort smiled at James and Lily's cowering. "Prepare to die. Avada-

The wall blasted to bits. James immediately put a shield around Lily and himself, ducking together. It was just enough distraction for Harry to wipe out all the death eaters. "Immobile! Cruico!" shouted a voice. Voldemort dropped to the ground the pain searing through his body, but he lay still as a board. Hermione and Ginny ran to the kids, the silencing charm immediately going away. Harry took Voldemort's wand and looked up. The wall had a huge circular hole in it and James II stood in the middle, his wand still pointed out. He gave a faint smile before collapsing and passing out.

25. Chapter 25: Coma

"Do you think he'll be okay?" Ginny asked, standing over her son's bed.

Harry wrapped his arm around her. "He's James, he always comes through."

After James defeated Voldemort, they took him to St. Mungo's. Harry bonded with his parents for much longer than the few minutes the other day. James still hadn't woken up by the end of the week, but was strong enough to travel. The portkey only lasted so long. So they went back home. They readmitted him into the hospital and stayed there for weeks.

It wasn't a surprise that the media followed them every where. Even Skip, Rita Skeeter's son, had trailed them for the exclusive story. Nobody really knew what happened, only by the papers. Potter Children Home Again. James Potter in Coma, Will He Live? And so on. The headlines were endless.

Day after day people visited James. Jillian, Albus, and Lily had been cleared back in 1977 and were back to normal. It'd been nearly two weeks since the battle and James hadn't moved an inch. His heart rate was slow and steady, but still there. It was a miracle he was alive, the doctors said. Another curse and he would've been insane.

Harry and Ginny left the room and Albus walked in alone. He sat in the chair beside James and sighed. "You're such an arse sometimes,"

he said. "Your big mouth gets you into a lot of trouble, you know. But really, you need to wake up! Mum's gone crazy at the house. She won't serve pancakes! Dad's been real stressed too. They've been talking about sending us back to Hogwarts again, but I want to be here when you're awake. Lily's been off too. She actually talked to me the other day about something in her life. I think she's hit rock bottom. Jillian, she's managing. She's gone back to school, but on weekends she comes to visit. We really need you back James, please."

The door opened and Lily entered.

"Hey," he said.

"Anything?" Albus shook his head. "I bet he's dreaming about food right now."

Albus laughed. "Probably. I've been thinking...You think he wanted to die?"

"No," Lily sat on the other side of James's bed. His body was covered in bandages and his hair still askew. "He wouldn't leave us. He knows he's got too much to loose."

"I miss him."

"Me too."

"This conversation never leaves the room."

"I already thought that was established." The siblings both laughed for the first time in a while.

James watched this scene from above. He wanted so badly to tell them he was okay. But he couldn't. He stood up, walking down to the Gryffindor common room. He saw the Marauders, Lily, Marlene, and Alice sitting by the fireplace talking like it was 1977 again. But now Nymphadora and Frank were there as well.

"James, how're things down below?" Lily asked comfortingly.

"Awful. Mum's a mess and dad can't even look Al or Lily in the eye without crying," James said. "Why can't I move yet?"

"It's not time," Remus answered simply. "You'll know when. But for now, care to join us for some drinks?"

James I grinned at his grandson, "It's alright, there's no drinking age here." He clapped his back and led him to the couch beside him and Lily.

"Why don't we tell you some of our stories from Hogwarts, before you came," Sirius suggested. "We've already watched you grow up, so what's the point in asking."

"So the first time I saw Lily..." James I began.

"Shut up," Marlene shouted. "We've heard this a million times! The boy's probably wanting to hurl at the thought!" James II laughed. "Let's tell him about the Prank War of 1974."

"Ah, a brilliant story," James I said recalling the memories. "It all started when Sirius and I started a food fight in the Great Hall."

"A lovely Spring day," Remus mentioned.

"Oh yes!" Lily exclaimed. "I had spent hours perfecting my hair because I was going on a date that day. I really fancied this boy, Jack Nimbler. And James threw treacle tart in my hair! I was livid."

"She sent about twenty pies his way," Sirius said. "And that's when it started. Our first attack was bleaching Marlene's hair..."

And they kept reminiscing about old times. Awhile later he met Severus Snape properly for the first time. They sat in the kitchens drinking pumpkin juice and eating biscuits. James now knew why his father admired him so much. He did save his life, after all. He was lonely, still. But he was friends with Lily again, even though she was still married to James.

James II met many people at Hogwarts in the sky. He played pranks with Fred, Uncle George's twin, he had Dobby to aid them as well. He met Lavender Brown, mental that one, and some kid who always took pictures of him. He saw Peter a few times, but never really talked to him. It was nice meeting all these people, but James didn't want to spend the rest of his life here.

Back down at St. Mungo's, Jillian had returned for the weekend to see James. He was cold, his body temperature just barley at normal. She missed seeing his smirk, hearing his endless compliments or smart-arse comments, and having him to hold her. Nothing was the same at Hogwarts. "James, I've been doing fairly well, but some kid asked me out the other day in case you didn't make it. I burst in to tears! James, I swear I'll never leave you. Give me a sign you're alright, that everything will be okay."

Above James pounded the window with all his force. He couldn't move himself. Not even the smallest bone. He watched Jillian cry over his body and stroke his hair while he just lay there like a log. "You stupid arse, move!" he shouted. Then, something happened. James felt pain all over his body, like he was immobile. He couldn't move, but somehow managed to move his finger. Then he was freed from the bind. He got up and stared intently at the window.

Jillian held James's hand tightly and wiped her tears. She felt something, and watched as James's finger slowly moved. It was barley anything, but it was something. She wept some more, but these were tears of joy. She kissed his cheek and hugged his body. "Oh James! I knew you had it in you."

"James, are you okay?" Sirius asked helping the boy up. "You looked like you had been petrified."

"It's the start," Lily said.

"The start?" James II asked.

"You see, in Hogwarts, well in the sky, you can't feel pain. You

don't feel anything really. You just live your life in peace among others. Those who can't, go to Hell. You see, you're not dead, technically. You're still on earth, which is why you can see yourself. You felt pain, James. You're going to be alright."

Sirius stared at her, his brows knitted in confusion. "So he's alive, but dead? Alead?"

Lily rolled her eyes. "Yes Sirius, he's ahead."

26. Chapter 26: Welcome Back

Lily sat in the Gryffindor common room when she saw something below. "James, it's time to decide."

"Decide what?" James II asked, half a pumpkin pastie hanging out of his mouth.

"If you're going to stay with us, or go home!" Lily said. "James, I just know it."

"Lily's got this weird power," James I said. "She's not a ghost, she's an angel. Or some weird shit like that. Dumbledore said she was going to be very important when we arrived. That's why we're like...the welcoming committee."

"James shut up! It's a long story, maybe for another time far in the future. But James, it was a blessing we got to meet you and our family. It wasn't an accident you and Lily fought and were sent to 1977. It was fate. We met our son, our family!"

"You helped me through some rough times, too," Sirius said. "When I sat in Azkaban, I knew I wasn't guilty. I knew I'd never betray James and Lily like that. I thought of the future, where I knew you'd live happily. I couldn't live without knowing Harry would grow up to raise you guys."

"I met my son," Remus said. "Dora and I are so proud of him, and we finally got to say it. Tell Harry we are so grateful for everything he's ever done to make Teddy the man he is today."

"I met a badass grandson," James said. "The Potters still remain to be awesome. Just know we'll be helping you every step of the way."

They wrapped James II in a group hug.

Lily smiled at him. "But it's time to chose..."

James saw a bright light coming his way and only thought of one thing. Home.

James heard voices around him. He couldn't find the energy to open his mouth and he couldn't feel a bone in his body. His brain hurt even thinking about what was happening. All he remembered was blasting the wall apart. He felt a weight on his arm. With all his energy, he opened his eyes. He scanned the room, he was at St. Mungo's. He peered down at his arm and a blurry blonde figure rested beside him. He smiled, they were alive, and closed his eyes.

James woke up again. He hadn't known how long it was since he last woke up, but Jillian wasn't there. He didn't feel the weight of her head on his arm anymore. He opened his mouth but couldn't find the words to say. A small moan came out. His throat was dryer than the Sahara Desert. He licked his chapped lips and tried to move. Nothing. He sighed in defeat. A nurse came in and started cleaning up. James tried to get her attention so he coughed. It hurt but it got her to look. Her eyes nearly popped out of their sockets. "DOCTOR!" she shouted, running out of the room.

In less than a minute, people began flooding in the room. James was overwhelmed. He wanted to go back to sleep and tune out all the things happening. But he couldn't. His family came in, swarming him. Harry hugged him so tight he could feel his bones again. Lily and Albus stood by his side and Ginny stroked his hair.

"Oh James," she said soothingly.

"Who are you?" he whispered.

Ginny let more tears come out. "James..."

"I'm kidding mum!" If he weren't in so many bandages she'd smack him. "What? I can't crack a joke after being in a coma?"

"Typical," Albus muttered.

"Mr. and Mrs. Potter?" the doctor said scanning over the notes. "May I talk with you in the hall?"

The pair followed the man into the hall. They entered, faces solemn. Ginny sat by James's side. "Love, I don't know how to tell you this," she said clutching his hand.

"What? Am I dying?"

"No, no," Harry said. "But you'll probably think it's much worse. You cannot walk."

"What do you mean I can't walk?"

"Exactly what it means," Ginny said. "I don't want you to fool around until you're fully healed. Listen, you're going to stay here for a week or so until you're strong enough to come home. Then you'll have to do some physical therapy. Muggles do it a lot to help strengthen themselves. It's become fairly popular."

"Why can't a healer fix it?"

"James," Harry said, "some things just can't be healed by magic. You're lucky you still have your legs! Just rest a while, we'll be back later with dinner."

James sat on his bed watching his little snitch flutter around his room. His dad had come to visit and left a bowl of chips across the room on the windowsill. It tormented James. He could ask his mother to bring it, but he knew it would lead to a lecture about health and get him something like carrots. He liked when his parents had to go to work and his grandmum came. She doted on his needs and always

brought goodies.

He caught the snitch and set it on the bedside table. The bowl of chips was taunting him. So, he decided to get up, or at least attempt. He successfully moved his legs so they dangled over the edge of his bed and he sat up. Now he was stuck. He was given a wheelchair to help him, but he didn't want to use it. He grabbed the bedside table and hauled himself up. He felt his feet touch the ground, but everything else was numb. He used his other hand to grab his shorts and lift the leg. He felt a push on his legs, like some force helping him. He chuckled and thought of what James had said, _'We'll be helping you every step of the way'._ "Sirius, if you're helping me walk to get to my food, you're a good man," he said. He made it a fair distance, but he was stuck when he ran out of table. He tried to take a step but fell over a pair of his dirty clothes. He ended up looking like a fish out of water.

Downstairs Ginny heard the crash and rushed up the stairs. She saw James on the floor and sighed. "James you need to rest!" Ginny exclaimed.

"Mum!" James complained throwing his arms up. "I can't stay on bed rest for my whole life!"

"James, you forgot how to walk! You could've forgotten anything! Like how to tie your shoes, or defense charms but you forgot a key essential!"

"Exactly! I could have lost my memory! You're lucky I remembered you're my mum! Oi, who even says you are. Maybe I forgot my memory and you're just pretending to be my family! Let me walk!"

Ginny rolled her eyes. "James, give it a rest! You've fallen five times trying to go to the bathroom. You're a boy, just pee in the cup!"

"I wasn't going to pee, I was trying to get the chips!" he pointed to the windowsill where the bowl sat with it crispy goodness lay inside, taunting James. "I won't give up!" He clenched to his nightstand so tight Ginny could swear she heard the wood crack. He tried to take a step but his legs gave in and he slumped back down to the ground. Ginny rolled up his wheelchair and levitated him into it. "Enough of this baloney. You haven't been out of the hospital for a week and you're already trying to walk again. I'm happy you're determined to walk again, but you need to give it time!"

"No! I can learn on my own."

"And how's that working out for you?"

James slumped down in his wheelchair. "Didn't your mum every tell you it was rude to make fun of the crippled and injured?"

She handed him the bowl of chips, "Get back in bed."

James was finally on his feet again. The doctors called it a miracle recovery. Everything was back to normal. The only scar he had left were the words "Blood Traitor" on his left forearm. He covered it with a wrap most of the time. He was on a broom shortly after he could run again and he was getting ready to go back to Hogwarts, much

to Ginny's dismay. She still wanted him to stay an extra week for reassurance but Harry insisted they let him go.

He didn't talk about the past, though. Every time someone would mention it, he'd leave the room, or wheel out (before he could walk again). He was the headline for every paper, and reporters came up to him all the time asking him for the story. He always replied, "No comment." He hadn't even told his father what he'd been through yet.

Then one night, James came into Harry's study the night before he was supposed to leave back to school. He and Ginny were talking when James walked in. "I'm ready to talk," he said, sitting across from them. Harry and Ginny nodded for him to continue. "It all started when James and Sirius told us about this raging party..."

Harry couldn't imagine what his son went through, or all of his children for the matter. He hoped his children would never feel the pain he felt from Voldemort.

"He cursed me every second he could, sent me back for an hour of rest, then came back. I never would tell them where James and Lily were. But then I got an idea. Jillian and I were messing around and I had put her bobby pin in my hair. Well I felt it dangling on his neck. So the next time he took me I blocked his spell with my wrists. Before I fell, I grabbed the pin. The death eaters were idiots and put the shackles on looser every time because my wrists were so swollen. So when they were normal again I was able to wriggle free."

"How'd you get a wand?" Ginny asked.

"Well, Snape came in after he took you guys away. He freed the others and left me my wand behind my back. Fenrir thought I was dead, so he let me be. I don't know how, but I got the strength to get up. I didn't even know what I was doing. I was already leaving my body. I'm sorry for acting dead, I just needed your reactions to be as real as possible for my plan. But I suppose I was already dying. And the scar, you've probably seen it. I talked with Aunt Hermione, she said she had a lotion she infused with stuff. I trust her enough and it's sorta fading, but it'll never really go away."

"You know it's not true?" Harry asked. James nodded. "It's just a word, you're not a traitor just like Aunt Hermione's not a "mudblood". And it's not your fault this happened. I know you blame yourself for the events."

"But it is! I'll never live it down. I could've led all of you to an early death! I screw up all the damn time, and for once karma caught up with me. Nearly dying really opened my eyes. I'm not the hero the reporters say I am, not really."

"You saved us all. You're our hero." Ginny said.

James smiled. "Thanks. But I don't feel like one."

Harry knew how he felt. After the war he was known as a hero. But he let so many people die, he didn't feel heroic. "Alright, son. Thank you for telling us, you can go to bed."

James fell back onto his bed. He looked up at his ceiling and smiled. "Thanks."

27. Chapter 27: Hogwarts Again

James stepped through the fireplace and into McGonagall's office. He dragged his trunk behind and stood alone. He saw a bowl of candies on her desk and helped himself. "She would've offered anyways," he said to himself. After a minute McGonagall came through the door.

"Mr. Potter, helping yourself already I see," she said. "Well, dinner's about to start. I don't suppose you'd want to miss that. Entrances were always your thing."

James smiled. "My trunks?"

"Taken care of." She flicked her wand and his stuff disappeared. "I assume you'll want to see your friends again. You've really been the talk of the school." The two walked down the corridors together. "The rumors I hear are outrageous, but let's not let that fill your ego anymore."

James chuckled. "Good to be back, Professor. Oh, would you hold this?" He handed her a small tube like thing. He smirked before opening both doors to the Great Hall, sparks flying behind him. McGonagall stood behind him and couldn't help but roll her eyes as she held the sparkler. "Just like James and Sirius..."

James swaggered to his usual spot between Jillian and some random Gryffindor.

"Potter!" someone shouted. He turned around to see Drew Bullstrode. "Shame you're back, we were really starting to have fun!"

"Sod off Bullstrode! I've been through hell, you scare me as much as a butterfly."

The school burst into hushed whispers. James couldn't take a bit before hearing his name said. "I don't really understand. You come back after being in a coma and you're the talk of the century!" Jillian rolled her eyes. "So how's quidditch been?"

"We've lost two games James," Lily said. "We're in third place for the Cup. We just need to beat Ravenclaw Saturday and then win the next few games and we'll be tied for the Cup."

James sighed. "I'll bet you've all been slacking! None of that anymore, I'll call extra practices. Dawn and Dusk! Just you wait, we'll have the Cup in our hands in no time. Albus can kiss his victory goodbye."

School had resumed as usual, no more odd stares or hushed whispers. James was behind in a few classes which led him to load of homework, packed with Head Boy duties, and managing the quidditch team. McGonagall was debating pulling him from being Head Boy to manage his schedule. Pulling him from quidditch was not an option in her mind. They were just too close to playing for the cup...she couldn't.

"Professor, you can't pull him from his head duties," Jillian pleaded. "He'll pull through, he always does."

McGonagall stared at the pacing girl from her desk, her face stern. "Miss Gillespie it's not in your authority to tell me what and what not to do. If I think Potter can't handle the stress of it all, than I'll have Fletcher McLaggen take his place as head boy."

"McLaggen! He's a bigger idiot than James and Fred combined! You can't have him take James's place."

"If you feel so strongly against him, you may pick James's replacement, with my approval."

Jillian nodded curtly before storming out of her office. James, who stood outside waiting for her return, jogged to catch up with her. "Hey, what happened? Jillian, wait up." He grabbed her arm and she spun around.

"She wants to replace you."

James frowned. "I know, she told me."

"Do you want to?"

He shrugged. "I dunno, I think it'd help a lot." She opened her mouth to argue but he was faster. "Jill, I need flying marks on my NEWTs if I want to become an auror! I need quidditch if I want to be accepted to a team. It's all I've got!"

"No, you've got leadership and loyalty and responsibility. All the kids depend on you and you can't let, Fletcher McLaggen," she shuddered, "take your place!"

"Jillian, would you really be that upset if I gave up my position?"

"Yes. But if needed, I'll just ask Will Speerz."

James scowled. "Jillian, he's a douche!"

"And handsome." She smiled and strut off down the corridor by a group of Ravenclaws, including Will Speerz. "Hey Will!"

The handsome boy smiled down at her. He had dirty blonde hair which he swept up and a tall, lean - yet muscular- body. He was taller than Jillian, who stood at 5'7, but just barley James's height who stood at 6'2. "Hullo Jillian, long time no see."

"Can we talk for a second?" He nodded and they walked around the corner, out of James's sight. "So McGonagall insisted that James take a leave from being Head Boy becuae of his studies and quidditch schedules overruling it. So she asked me to pick someone, would you like to be Head Boy?"

His blue eyes lit up. "Of course!" He wanted to hug her, but he didn't know if he should. After all, James was right around the corner. But he didn't have to debate much longer because the blonde was hugging him. "What should I do now?"

"Let's go to McGonagall. She'll tell you everything."

"Fantastic."

It was the middle of March, the 17th to be exact. Hogwarts students were decked in green left right and center. The buds were starting to bloom finally, and Hagrid was feeding the Giant Squid with his left over fish guts from who knows what. James had caught up with his studies after many tutoring hours with Tegan. She wasn't the smartest, but she was the best he had who didn't drive him crazy. Jillian was jam packed with Head duties and spent most of her time with Will. James wasn't too crazy about it, but he didn't really have time to worry about it. Easter break was coming soon, but nobody really had fun on this holiday. It was all studying.

Gryffindor had won Ravenclaw bumping them down in the race to for the Cup. But Ravenclaw had led a victorious win against Hufflepuff and knocked them out of the running. The next game was Slytherin against Ravenclaw and then the winner of that would play Gryffindor in the finals. Though everyone knew it would be Slytherin vs. Gryffindor in the end.

Lily and Scorpius had planned to introduce each other to their families during Easter break. The whole school knew about them, and James and Albus finally let their guard down whenever they were around, or alone. The only person who minded their relationship was Rose who still fantasized about Scorpius. She barley talked to Lily anymore.

Lily had told Scorpius about everything that happened during Christmas break and he was comforting to her. She also apologized for breaking the time turner her so graciously gave her, and he dismissed it. "'s not important".

"Who would've thought, a Potter and a Malfoy," Scorpius said that day as they sat by the lake. "I mean, my grandfather would be rolling in his grave!"

"My grandfather was outraged, but I gave 'em a little speech and all was well," Lily said smiling. "Your grandfather, though, was horrid! Called me a blood traitor one day out of no where and then a whore. The nerve...I was about to tell him off, saying that his own blood was dating me. But I couldn't."

Scorpius was still trying to get used to the fact Lily had traveled back in time and met his grandfather. Scorpius only met the man a handful of time, and even then the man was fragile and old. Telling him stories about his time and to keep the Malfoy name "pure". His long hair had been long gone too and left his head shiny bald. "Well, are you coming to the Manor over break or am I going to yours?"

Lily laughed, "We sound like stuck up rich kids. But you should come to the Burrow. You can meet all my family at once and get it over with. Uncle Charlie's even coming in from Romania to visit. I suspect Uncle Ron will be hardest to crack."

"Alright," Scorpius said, a little uneasy about the situation. "I can handle a bunch of Weasleys! What're they gonna do? Turn me into a ferret?" Lily laughed some more. "How do I tell him though? I can't

just say 'Father I'm going to the Potter's to meet my girlfriends family, see you later!'"

"Just say Al invited you."

"Of course, how could I forget. You're brilliant."

"I know, that's why I said it, silly!"

"Sexy."

"_Po-tato, pot-at-o_." She scrunched up her nose and he leaned in for a kiss.

And that's how James found them, much to his disgust. Snogging under the beech tree. His favorite place was now marked with his baby sister running her hands up Malfoy. He cleared his throat and averted his eyes. He never realized how blue the sky was that day.

"You can look James," Lily said.

He looked back and Lily was sitting criss-crossed and Malfoy lounged lazily next to her.

"Right - erm - I'll leave you to it I suppose. Keep it PG..."

"PG my arse," Lily muttered.

28. Chapter 28: A Girl and a Cat

"Mum trusts you to drive us home?" Lily asked staring at James in bewilderment. "I highly doubt that."

"Hey, she sent me the keys and everything. We just need to find granddad's car. Uncle Ron said he magicked it back together when it came speeding out of the forest, so it should be safe."

"Yeah, about as safe as swimming with sharks!" Albus exclaimed. "Uncle Ron can't magic anything back together! Let me drive, I've actually been on lessons before. Uncle Dudley took me one summer."

"Yeah well I'm older!" James hit the button on the key and a beep went off. They saw the blue car parked far away and headed towards it.

"I call shotgun," Lily shouted rushing towards the car.

James shrunk all the bags and put them in the trunk of the car before getting into the drivers seat. Albus and Scorpius piled in the back along with their owls and Lily's new found kitten. "What'd you name the beast?" Albus asked, picking up the kitten and staring at the bright blue eyes.

Lily shrugged. "I haven't decided yet."

"You've had the cat for what, a week?" James asked, putting the car in motion. "What've you been calling it?"

"Kitty."

Albus and James both rolled their eyes. Scorpius just sat there petting the pure white fur of the sleeping kitten.

"What about Zander?" Albus asked.

"He doesn't look like a Zander," Scorpius said. "What about Jax?"

"No, no," James said. "How about Harley."

"Yeah..." they all agreed in unison.

Lily sat there and shook her head. "I'm not naming my cat after a muggle bike. His name...his name is Finx."

"Finx?" Albus questioned. The kittens head snapped up at the mention of his new name. "Stupid cat." He picked him up and handed it to Lily who cuddled him and lay him on her lap. "Why can't we fly?"

"Mum took off that feature," James said pushing the button. "It won't do anything, so we have to drive. Hey, maybe I can do something..." He took his wand out and the nearest stop and muttered a spell. They took off towards a park which was currently empty and the engine roared. James hit the button and soon they were flying above the clouds, invisible to the muggles of course. "Mum forgets that Jillian's my girlfriend, a charms expert. Taught me all sorts of counter charms."

"I thought you two broke up," Scorpius commented.

James scowled and clenched the wheel tighter. "No, we're just...in an argument."

"She's still mad because he gave up being Head Boy," Lily explained, "and he's mad because she picked Will Speerz to be new Head Boy and spends all her time with him. You'd think they were dating those two..."

"They're not," James muttered.

"Well someone's jealous," Lily teased to Finx. "Is Mr. Grumpy Pants mad because he blew the chance with his girlfriend?" The cat bobbed it's head. "That's right, he is mad!"

"I'll throw that cat out the window if you don't shut up Lily."

"Is Mr. Grumpy Pants catist?" she turned to James, "that's discrimination against cats." she turned back to Finx, "You don't let him put you down. You're a big cat."

"Finally," Albus said spotting the Manor. They touched ground and James parked the car on the lawn of Potter Manor. "I would've thrown out the cat if we hadn't landed sooner!"

James, Albus, and Scorpius dragged their, and Lily's, trunks up the trail. The owls flew freely behind them, their cages floating behind James. Lily and Finx reached the door first and were greeted by a note on the glass. "Kids, we are out and will be back shortly after

your arrival. Don't go anywhere. Love mum and dad."

"Well, you don't have to worry for a bit, Scorp," Albus said patting his back. "I suspect they're at the Burrow plotting his death."

Scorpius knew he was joking but still stood there worried.

"Are you coming in or not?" Lily teased, grabbing his hand. "James, is Jillian coming tomorrow or are you two still 'arguing'."

"I dunno, guess we'll see," James said.

"Oh my, we'll need to get Finx some cat things," Lily said. "We haven't got an ounce of cat food. Only owl treats." She closed the cabinet in the kitchen. "Aunt Hermione'll take me, she's told me all about Crookshanks." Albus and James groaned. "What?"

"That cat's a nightmare!" Albus said. "Clawed at everything I owned at it's old age."

"Swiped my bird right out of the air," James added. "My five year old heart was broken. Sat there, licking it's lips and coughing feathers for the past weeks."

"That tabby sits on it's fat arse mocking us at the Burrow. Reckon it'll be there tomorrow waiting to cause mayhem for mum to blame us! It should be dead!"

The front door swung closed. Harry and Ginny along with Ron and Hermione stood there. "Sounds just like Ron talking about Crookshanks when we were twelve," Hermione said. "Always muttering about him. The cats brilliant, the best purchase I've ever bought."

"What brings him up?" Ginny asked.

"Lily's got herself one," Albus said pointing to the white fluff in Lily's arms.

"Oh Aunt Hermione, would you take me shopping in Diagon Alley?" Lily pleaded. "James and Albus aren't good for anything and I bet dad agrees with Uncle Ron. Mum's more of a Pygmy Puff person anyways."

"Of course," Hermione said delighted. "May I?" Lily handed the cat the her.

"Lily, where on earth did you get a cat!" Ginny exclaimed.

"Well Scorpius and I..." she stopped a second remembering she still needed to tell them, "we - erm - were out on a walk and he sort of prodded up to us from the forest. He didn't have anybody so I took him in. Lady's got no problem with her, so I figured it'd be okay." Her gray owl sat by the open window gave a small hoot. "'is names Finx."

"Wait, you and Malfoy?" Ron said. Scorpius, who was behind Albus, appeared. ("Hello, Mr. and Mrs. Potter, Weasley's.") Ron scowled. "What're you doing with Malfoy about the grounds? Shouldn't he've been with Al too?"

Albus and James smirked. They weren't too interested in their parents finding out, but Ron showing up gave them a show. They sat down, eager to watch. If he didn't like Lily being with Scorpius, they couldn't wait to see what he'd do when he finds out Rose is head over heels for him.

"Well, we're dating," Lily said, moving to stand by him. Her parents didn't really seem too affected and Hermione just smiled, Finx purring gently in her arms. Ron went red. "I was just going to tell mum and dad, but congrats! You're the first uncle in the family to know!"

Ginny smiled, but still shocked. "Lovely to have you again Scorpius." She was used to hosting him since he came a lot over with Albus. "Why don't you boys bring up your trunks. I won't have a mess the first day back." Lily made to follow them but Harry cleared his throat signaling her to stay back. "Lily, why didn't you owl us about this!"

"Well...I dunno," she said. She became pretty interested in the loose nail in the floorboard. "Supposed it'd be better in person to do it."

"How long?" Harry asked.

"'bout three or four months, maybe. You're not, mad...are you?" All except Ron shook their heads. "Well I was hoping I could introduce him to the family as my boyfriend tomorrow. And he's invited me over during summer for a week before they leave."

"We'll talk about it later, Lily," Ginny said keeping a weary eye on Ron. "Help unload the bags, will you?"

"What about Do -" Ginny gave her the look. "Right...but I'm not doing it alone. James and Albus will have to help." She ran up the stairs avoiding the watchful eye of her uncle.

"M-Malfoy?" Ron uttered.

Harry clapped his back, "I'm just as shocked as you are mate."

Hermione grinned, "You know, I reckon all the children know, rumors spread in Hogwarts. Surprised Skeeter's daughter didn't have something to say about it. You know, gallivanting about the halls with her quill."

"Hermione, give up your grudge against the old bat," Harry said. "I wonder what other surprises we'll get today."

"I think today's been a few," Hermione said sitting on the couch, Finx still in her arms.

Ginny laughed, "Oh, you don't know our kids. One surprise leads to a chain of many, many more. I suspect Al will have something to spill soon. Maybe he's gotten himself a girlfriend."

"At least it won't be a Malfoy," Ron muttered.

"JAMES YOU GIT!" came a shout from upstairs. A crash followed, then a rush of footsteps colliding down the stairs. James came down his wand out, as if ready to fight, but was soon tackled by Albus, who - not in the least bit gracefully - jumped midway on the stairs onto his back. Throwing their wands away, they both rolled on the floor, James putting Albus in a headlock and Albus punching James's gut. There was just something missing...and then it came. A spark from upstairs hit both of them and they howled in pain as bats came flying out of their noses.

"That'll teach you to do what I ask you," came Lily's confident voice. Scorpius and Lily both rushed down the stairs. He was smirking, obviously amused, and she stood over them, arms crossed, pleased with herself.

Hermione sat there thoroughly amused and Ron couldn't help but laugh, but still avoided Scorpius's gaze. Harry snickered but slowly walked closer to the two. There were two outcomes in this scenario. Ginny would either laugh at her children, or tell them off for their foolishness. It looked like it would've been the first, but then James grabbed his wand and sent a jinx at Lily - who he missed - and ended up hitting Ron. He immediately fell to the floor. "Definitely the latter..." Harry said helping Ron to his feet.

But surprisingly, there was no yelling. James, who had just noticed his mother feet away, scrambled to his feet, stuffing his wand in his pocket. Albus lay on the ground moaning in pain, obviously putting on a show for James to be grounded.

What she did, however, was far worse than expected. Something never done before. She smiled. "I expect these bags to be put away without anymore fighting. We'll be out in the yard when you're finished. And Lily, please clear these bats. They don't suit the house very well. 'd like to hear about what's happened at Hogwarts lately. Chop chop, time's a galleon. And Scorpius, would you mind grabbing the tea cozy? It's in the linen closet."

Albus quit whining and sat up immediately, shooting his siblings a confused look. Lily also stared at her mother, puzzled. She expected at least a little yelling at her brothers. James shrugged, he was off scot-free. He flicked his wand and immediately the groceries starting putting themselves away. Lily opened a window and the bats instantly flew out in a single line.

"What's gotten into her?" Albus asked, the kettle whistling almost as soon as he placed it.

"I dunno," Lily said getting the teacups. "She's actually acting _"

"Like a decent mother!" James finished. "Maybe she's gotten a promotion, or invited back to the Holyhead Harpies."

"Whatever it is, I don't want it to go away!" Albus said.

The kids wandered back out into the yard where the four adults sat. Ginny was looking normal but the kids felt uneasy about her new "niceness". Albus set the tea down and it started pouring itself cups and flying about to it's drinker.

"Kids, we've got something to tell you," Harry said.

"YOU'RE PREGNANT!" Albus exclaimed at his mother.

"Shut up Al," Lily muttered, slapping the back of his head.

"No, no," Ginny said, "I'm surely not having another baby. But we are, in fact, housing a child."

All three Potter children dropped their mouths. "What?"

"I was at work," Harry began, "with Ron and a small girl came up to us. She musn't've been older than five or six. She was asking for her mummy and so I went about asking people if she was theirs. Nobody knew who she was so I did a little research. Her parents were wizards, both half-bloods, when they died. Muggle car crash. I dunno why, but she was brought there. Kingsley suggested we take her in for awhile. She'll be arriving sometime tomorrow morning, or even tonight."

Lily grinned, "So it's like having a little sister?" Both Ginny and Harry nodded.

"Two Lilies running around, fantastic," Albus said, his sarcasm noted. "Not to sound rude, but why are we taking her in? Why not Aunt Hermione and Uncle Ron. Heck, even Teddy and Victoire. They could use some parental training."

"Well, Ron and I couldn't," Hermione said, "After break we're traveling to the states. I've also been looking for house elves there and see how they're being treated."

"Are you still on about that spew stuff?" Ron asked. "I thought we were just going for fun!"

Hermione rolled her eyes, "It's not "spew", Ronald! As for Teddy and Victoire, they've got loads on their plate with wedding arrangements."

"What's her name?" James asked.

"Katrina," Ginny answered. "She's blonde, brilliant blue eyes, and I reckon she's a wizard, though there's no sign of it. She knows loads about wizardry for her age though, so I'll hope you'll make her feel warm and welcome."

"Well, most of us will," Lily said, shooting James a look. "Is that all?" All four adults nodded. "Alright, Scorpius and I will be upstairs." She grabbed Finx from the floor. "We're going to find Finx a bed. Maybe one of James's dirty clothes piles." She got up and Scorpius followed.

"With the door open I assume?" Ginny said.

"Of course mum. She's got a knack for embarrassing children..."

Scorpius smiled. "Actually, I'm quite flattered."

Albus and James gagged.

29. Chapter 29: Meet the Weasley's

"BOYS! LILY!" Ginny shouted. "COME DOWN!"

After a few minuets, four pairs of feet stumbled down the stairs. Two boy shirtless, one girl in a sports bra, and the last boy clothed in what looked like silk quidditch shorts and white shirt. Scorpius wouldn't dare come down half dressed in the Potters home, especially know that they knew he was dating their only daughter.

"Harry'll be here any within the hour with Katrina," she said excitedly. "What're you all wearing! Go, go change before they come! Dory did a fresh load of laundry with your nice clothes. We'll be leaving for the burrow in a few hours as well. I want you to look spiffing! And Scorpius, Dory had pressed your clothes as well. Hurry!"

They scrambled back upstairs much faster than how they came down. "She'd replace us with another family if she could," Albus muttered.

Within the hour, as said, they were all showered, groomed, and dressed. England's weather was turning hotter and dress robes would weigh them down. Ginny picked out preppy clothes for her boys to wear at the burrow. She loved having family photos, and usually always picked out their outfits. She spotted them from a magazine Victoire had left at their place one evening. "Preppy clothes for your little men" written on the cover. "Not again!" Albus exclaimed. On his bed lay dark green shorts, a pale blue dress shirt, and brown shoes he'd never seen before (Sperry's written on the inside). On Scorpius's mattress there were his best Sunday clothes, his mother, Astoria Malfoy, liked to say. White trousers, blue dress shirt (a bit darker than Albus's), and a black sports coat. "Mum's gone muggle," Albus said to him, "She's obsessed with dressing us for holidays."

James also had his array of "preppy clothes" on his bed. He didn't really mind what he wore, as long as he looked good in it. Khaki shorts, a deep royal blue sweater, and brown shoes, much like Albus's. He put it on rather quickly and rolled up the sleeves of the sweater. Something was off, though. He went to his dresser and pulled out a belt. It was about an inch and a half thick made of some fabric with little broomsticks lined on it. He stared into the mirror and smirked. He looked rather dashing in these clothes, though his hair wouldn't stay put.

Across the hall, Lily put on her dress. It was navy, strapless, and fit beautifully over her body, lace covering the upper half. She spun, the dress flying elegantly. She had white wedges, the straps tying a bow at the back of her ankle. She favored wearing high shoes, being only 5'5 at the moment. She was nearly Albus's height now. She finished her makeup and put her hair into loose waves with her wand.

All four exited their rooms at once. They stood in the hall together, staring each other down. James looked rather handsome in his outfit, Scorpius too. Albus wasn't really, feeling, his outfit. He wasn't a fan of flashy colors with his pale complexion. Never the less, they

all looked amazing. They walked downstairs and saw Ginny feverishly cleaning up the house, even though it was already spotless.

"Mum, I don't like this outfit," Albus said staring at his green shorts. "You know, I should've gotten khaki's like James. It would fit with your whole, blue theme."

"Albus shush!" Ginny said. "Harry's arriving any moment now."

Just then, the door opened. Harry came in, trunking floating over head and upstairs to the room next to Lily's no doubt. Trailing after him, staring at every bit of the house, came Katrina. Long blonde hair, though darker brown at the roots, down to her mid-back and dazzling blue eyes, like Ginny had described. She was in every way, _adorable_.

"Welcome home Katrina!" Ginny said walking over to Harry. "I'm Ginny."

"I know!" she said. "Mr. Harry talks a lot about you."

Ginny blushed. "Well, come meet our children. James," she pointed to the tallest, "Albus," she pointed to the second who was still staring at his shorts, "and my daughter Lily" she pointed to the only redheaded girl in the line. "And this is our friend Scorpius, he'll be staying with us for the week."

The blonde smiled shyly and went to hide behind Ginny.

Harry looked at his watch and smiled, "Best be going, nearly twelve. Katrina?" He held out his hand and the little girl took it. They flashed out with a pop. "Alright, I'll take Lily, I hope you'll get there safely?" The boys nodded. "Lily where's Finx?"

"I left him somewhere." There was a small purr from the couch. "Right, he'll be fine. Aunt Hermione left me some cat food and toys." She took her mother's hand and they disappeared too.

"How're we getting there?" Albus asked.

"Floo," James said heading towards the fireplace.

"Mum'll kill us if we get dirty!" Albus exclaimed.

"Are you a wizard, or not?" He took a handful of the powder, stepped into the flames and shouted, "THE BURROW!"

Scorpius shrugged and went after, soon followed by Albus. They arrived and snuck to the back to clean themselves of soot. They reemerged to see the entire gang of Weasley's and Potters. Albus nudged Scorpius, "Hey, at least you won't have all the attention!" he nodded to Katrina who was surrounded by many.

Scorpius cracked a nervous laugh, "Heh...yeah..."

"Ah James, Albus!" Molly Weasley gushed. "You look wonderful, and Scorpius, so glad you could make it. The Longbottom's, Gillespie's, and Teddy and Victoire should be here soon. I hope Minerva can make it..."

James groaned, "McGonagall's coming?"

"She's very lovely to have," Ginny said, eyeing James.

James sat watching Hugo and Ron play wizards chess when the door to the burrow opened. Jillian walked in. He sat up a smile across his face. "Jill!" he called. She walked over and he kissed her cheek. Things were normal so far. "I was thinking you weren't going to show."

"A stupid fight isn't going to scare me away," she said. "But I'm still upset with you."

"Yeah well, I'm sure Speerz would love to hear those rants..."

"You're jealous!" she exclaimed. "Besides, it's not like you couldn't have prevented it. You sure had enough time to hang around Adrian Gartner."

"Oh please, she's a fifth year! I was helping her with prefect duties, McGonagall's orders."

"Hasn't stopped you before..."

"Are you saying I'd cheat on you?"

"No. I'm saying you'd date her if you could."

"If you haven't forgotten, we're still dating."

"Are we?" Jillian said, her hands on her hips. "We haven't really talked since you quit Head Boy -"

"JAMES!" Ginny exclaimed. "You're not Head Boy anymore!"

"No, he quit."

"Only because I had too! I missed nearly two months of school and I was behind in lots of things. McGonagall wouldn't pull me from quidditch either. We can't ruin our streak! The only option was Head Boy, because most of the duties overruled my schedule."

"You should've written us, we could've helped," Harry said.

James turned red and grabbed Jillian's hand. He led her upstairs and to Ron's old room. "Jillian, you know I was busy. Why are you so mad about it! We haven't had a proper conversation since January! I thought you of all people would have been sympathetic towards me. Seeing as you were there!" Jillian didn't say anything. "And on top of that, you go and flirt with Will Speerz! He's probably slept with half of Hogwarts!"

"James..."

"No, and then on top of it all, you ignore me! The only time you've ever willingly said something was during quidditch practices when you disagree with my plays and drills. Which is far more often than before."

"James, quidditch and Heads were the only things we had together. We don't have many lessons together anymore since I've been taking more courses. McGonagall said I almost took as many lessons as Hermione when she was a third year! I just thought...you'd want to stay with me. We rarely have any time together since what happened and you were on bed rest, learning to walk again. And then when you said you'd rather quit Head Boy I thought you didn't want to be with me and I over thought it. And when we were fighting we never talked! I just...miss you."

He was flabbergasted. He didn't say anything, but hugged her. He missed her, too. The feeling of warmth when he touched her or the look she gave him. He didn't need to ask if they were good now, because he knew. Everything was okay in the world again. "You know, we're probably missing my uncles telling off Scorpius for dating Lily."

Jillian smiled. "Don't suppose we could miss a few minutes of that..." She smirked and leaned in for a snog, but they both knew it'd be more than a few minutes gone.

Downstairs Lily sat with Scorpius sharing a bowl of carrots. Nobody said anything, really, because Katrina stole the thunder. Scorpius was pleased, however, to not be the center of attention. Albus sat with them, gagging when they said sweet nothings to each other. Lily was rather quite annoyed with her brother, purposely trying to get rid of him.

"Hello Lily," Teddy said coming over to the three.

"Oh Lily, I must ask -" Victoire started, but she was cut short because the loud bang from the kitchen.

"FRED!" Molly shouted. "A FAKE WAND! GEORGE!" The two smirked, almost like how the twins used to. George was done crying over Fred, but it still hurt when Molly yelled at his son. For a second he almost thought she was yelling at Fred I.

James and Jillian had made a reappearance quickly while the explosion had happened. Not skipping a beat, James jumped to the nearest conversation so his mother couldn't question him.

"Right, I wanted to ask for you to be a bridesmaid," Victoire continued to Lily.

Lily squealed and jumped up. "Oh I'd love to!" she squealed.

"Albus and James are groomsmen, and my best friend, Courtney, will be my maid of honor. We have finally set a date, July 12."

"Why that day?" James asked.

"It's the day Teddy and I told the family we were together!"

Lily smiled, shooting a side glance at Scorpius. Maybe today, March 28th, would be the day she remembered forever. But she pushed it aside, she didn't want her hope of staying with Scorpius to be too high. After all, he would be in his final year starting next fall and she'd still be in Hogwarts. It wasn't like most to stay in relationships when they separated. Lily's smile faltered as she

thought of it.

"What's wrong?" Victoire said, "Not fancying being bridesmaid?"

"Oh, nothing, I'm just a bit parched." She grabbed James's cup of butterbeer and downed the rest much to his protest (Oy! I was drinking that!").

Katrina was the highlight of the evening. Harry and Ginny cooed over her while the rest of the family adored her, especially Molly. But Katrina got tired, as every child does, and took a nap seeing as there were no kids her age to play with. Dinner was served early, around 3:30. Scorpius still managed to be breathing by then. He didn't eat much, seeing as it'd probably come right back out. After dinner, that's when James and Lily got into a row.

"JAMES!" Lily shouted angrily. Her dress had been splattered with pumpkin juice when James knocked her cup over trying to reach his snitch that flew from his pocket. "Why on earth do you even have that? You don't even play seeker!"

"Well a quaffle wouldn't fit in my pocket would it now?" James said, stuffing the golden ball back into his pocket. "What's it to you anyways? You're a witch, it's like you can't clean it up."

The family wasn't really paying attention, as this happened a lot. Lily scowled. She knew he was right. She could flick her wand and everything would be fine, but she wouldn't let him have his way. He went back to slouching in his chair and a light went off in Lily's head. She grabbed the pitcher of pumpkin juice and slowly poured it over James's head. The family sat there dumbstruck. "You're a wizard, clean it up..."

James ran a hand through his damp hair and shook it like a dog, splattering Lily once more with pumpkin juice. "What? Just...cleaning it up. Here, you can give me a hand." He grabbed the pie Hermione was holding and threw it at her, hitting his square in the chest. She grabbed the closest thing to her, which were pumpkin pasties and chucked them at him one after another. The desserts Molly, Ginny, and Hermione so carefully brought out were now either on the floors, walls, or on James and Lily.

"JAMES, LILY!" Ginny exclaimed. "What are you doing!"

They both stopped. James was hiding behind a silver tray, a fork for defense, and Lily was aiming Treacle Tart at his face, mid-throw. They both lowered their weapons and stood covered in food.

"Why didn't anyone stop them?" Hermione asked.

"Well..." Ron began, "we thought it was quite..."

"Amusing," George finished.

"He/She started it!" they both shouted in unison.

"Let's get you cleaned up..." Molly said. The Weasley-Potter's were back to their usual conversations.

Scorpius stood up and lowkey grabbed her hand, gently pulling her

away. He pulled out his wand and muttered, "_Scourgify_," she was clean almost immediately. Lily smiled and kissed his cheek. He seemed to tense up and Lily pulled away.

"Scor?" she said. She turned to see her entire family staring back at them. Scorpius seemed to have gone into shock. "Brilliant...first a fight, now this. Take a picture, it'll last longer!" Then there was a flash blinding them. When she could see, she saw James smiling at the freshly dried photo of the two. Her cheeks went red with embarrassment. "Where did you get that?"

"Granddad, of course," James said. "Cute isn't it? I'll put it right up on the fridge with Al's old prefect badges and my discipline letters for McGonagall!"

"So you're dating then?" George asked. Lily could only nod. "A Malfoy and a Potter? Who would've thought!"

"That's what I said," Scorpius muttered, "Sir."

"Don't go all posh on us," Charlie said.

"Let's have a talk with him!" James said, staring straight at Lily. She should've seen it coming. Of course James would use this as the perfect time for payback on the food fight.

"Brilliant idea," Teddy said clapping Scorpius on the back. Lily disagreed and said it clearly, "No, no, I think he's perfectly fine! How about quidditch? Anyone?"

"Lily's the youngest girl, you know," Louis added.

"Right, and the only Potter girl, too," Hugo mentioned.

Scorpius followed the men upstairs into Ron's old room where they sat him down. It was only expected. They did it to Roxanne when she brought home some bloke named Derek Stalone. Lily couldn't remember if they were still together. They even told Teddy off when he and Victoire started dating. It was more of a shock to the adult, seeing as most of Hogwarts were Weasley's and found out sooner or later. James, Lucy, and Fred was currently the oldest going to Hogwarts, Molly and Louis both graduating the year before.

"Girls, why don't you go out back?" Molly suggested. Everyone below Victoire's age went outside.

"I hope they don't go too hard on the poor bloke," Hermione said. "I 'spect Ron'll give him a hard time. Though he still doesn't know Rose fancies the Malfoy boy, too."

"No!" Victoire gasped. "I thought she was with that Scammander boy still! What would Uncle Ron say!"

"Oh yes, Lily's written to me about Rose fawning over him in her rants about Scorpius. Minerva says she's just like Lily and James Potter I, in a way, always fighting in the halls of Hogwarts and such."

"Scorpius iz definitely a flirt with Lily!" Fleur added. "Always staring at her or holding her hand. He zinks nobody had not

noticed!"

"I wouldn't be surprised if Dom knew about it," Molly II said. "They're best friends, her and Rose."

"Ron would have a near heart attack!" Ginny said. "He's never really gotten over his grudge with Malfoy, even though Harry has come to terms with it. I don't really mind, he's been coming over since Albus's first year when they became friends."

"Yes, quite brave of him, too," Molly said. "With his father and everything. I bet it's Astoria calling the shots now."

"He's unlike Harry," Audrey commented. "I mean, first he befriends a family enemy, and now he's dating one!"

The shuffled of feet coming downstairs ended their conversation. Scorpius looked uneasy, but not as tense as when he had left. Albus stood by him smiling, "So...when's dessert?"

30. Chapter 30: Auror

James was fresh out of Hogwarts and in the middle of his auror training. Like Teddy, James didn't want the easy way in. Most would love a high standing rank for little work, but James felt the need to prove himself. He was, after all, Harry Potter's son.

"Alright James," Teddy said. "Today we'll start real-life crisis work. You're going to shoot curses at whatever object crosses your path and get to the other side."

"Couldn't I just apparate?" James said staring at the small maze.

"Well you can't help the people inside by doin' that, can you? There are four people in peril total and you have five minutes before it all explodes. Are you ready?" James nodded. "GO!"

He entered the maze, a vine already trying to attack it. "_Reducto_!" It shriveled up and slid back to the cracks on the wall. He found his first person, a man who was stunned, covered in some thick black plant. "Devil's Snare..." James thought a moment, reminiscing a time when Jillian helped him study for N.E.W.T.s. in the Gryffindor commons.

"Devil's Snare don't like sunlight, James," she said, "like you in the morning." _

"_Incendio!_" _James muttered. The man was relieved from the plant and James brought him back, ("Ennervate").

He continued along the maze, finding two more people on his way, a woman and her child cornered by a "Death Eater". He stunned the Death Eater and the two carefully joined him and the man. They seemed to be a family, James thought as he kept wandering. "Point Me". His wand pointed forward, he was going the right way.

"TWO MINUTES!" Teddy voice shouted.

"One more person," James muttered. Alas he found a teenage girl screaming in a dead end, a snake slithering in front of her. A chest lay hidden behind leaves. "Riddikulus!" he shouted. The snake turned into a small worm and went back into the cabinet. "Come on, we've only got a few moments!" James led them through the maze, knocking out Death Eaters, killing plants, and answering a puzzling question to get his way out. He survived with five seconds left. The family who trailed him, not much help, waved their wands and James recognized them as other aurors.

"Well done James, close call, but well done," Teddy said. "How about lunch?"

James walked out of the training room and saw a redhead he knew all too well talking with Kingsley Shacklebolt. The man looked up and smiled, "Ah James, your fathers been lookin' for you."

"Alright, I'll find him later."

"I'll leave you two then. But Quill, I expect you'll be back in twenty minutes for apparation." She nodded.

"Exhausting, isn't it?" Tegan said.

"Yeah," James couldn't deny it. His body was already sweating. "What've you been doing?"

"Well we just finished transfiguring things to hide trails. Whaddabout you?"

"Defense."

"You reckon Fred's having a good time with Puddlemore United?" James nodded. "I wonder how Jillian's doing, with being a Healer and all."

"Don't you live with her?" James said.

"Yes, but I don't see her during the day considering we're both in training."

After Hogwarts, James and Fred bought a flat together in London, not too far from Godric's Hollow. They split rent, with James's family inherit and Fred's joke shop earnings. It was two bedroom's a kitchen, living room, and three bathrooms. Even Harry was surprised with their findings. Jillian and Tegan got a flat also, moving in only a floor above them, except it was two bathrooms, not three.

A bird flew by the window, almost unsure if it was open or closed. Tegan walked over and opened it, the owl diving in. The letter was addressed to James, written in neat, yet choppy, handwriting.

Dear James,

How's Auror training? Dad says you're coming along great. I think I'll become a auror after Hogwarts, but it's only January. I've got a few more months. Can't believe I'll be leaving Hogwarts! Lily's deranged cat, Finx, still finds his way to the Slytherin common room just to piss on my pillow. Nasty thing. You know Lily and Scor are still together, didn't think they'd last this long. But she's all

worried they'll end when we graduate. I've got a new owl too, if you couldn't tell. The other died, I bet anything Finx got to it. Not much use, the other, though. I suppose it would've died hunting anyways. (James stared down at the grey owl nipping at the discarded envelope). Her names Quin, short for Quinivus. I let Lily name her. Anyways, I was wondering if you could give me a tip in transfiguration, considering it's your best. McGonagall compares me to you something y'know! Never thought one day I'd be compared to James Sirius Potter in school work. Anyways, I can't seem to transfigure my pig into a sheep. _

_Your Brother, _

Abus

James smiled. Tegan had gotten them a table and he sat writing back while she ate her lunch.

_Albus, _

_Just stun the cat and he won't come back. At least for me it worked. Aside, from that I dunno about Lily and Scorpius. I don't reckon they'll last much longer. Just keep an eye out for me. Quin's quite smart, didn't dive head first into the closed window. For transfiguration, just make sure your wand movements are exact, not the slightest bit of slack, and focus. That's key. Hope all is well back at Hogwarts, tell McGonagall to polish my most detention record in her cabinet. Most since the Marauders era, Uncle George and late Uncle Fred'll be proud. Even though I beat them out of their record.

_

_Yours, _

James

James settled back in his flat after a long day of training. Fred was already home sleeping on the couch, a PlayWitch magazine laying on the ground. He took a shower and dressed in some nicer clothes. Jillian, Tegan, and all their parents were supposed to come over later as well for dinner to check up on them. He quickly shoved Fred's magazines into the drawer of the coffee table and cleaned the house quickly with the flick of his wand. Fred woke up, too, and smoothed out the couch cushions. James transfigured the coffee table to a large dining table as well.

There was a knock. James opened it greeting his parents, Fred's parents, and little Katrina. Harry and Ginny adopted her sometime during the summer. James was her favorite, considering she saw him the most while the others were at school. She still didn't show signs of magic, much to Ginny's concern. But James knew she would. He teased Albus relentlessly when they were younger.

_"YOU'RE A SQUIB!" young James shouted. _

_"AM NOT!" younger Albus defended. _

"Then do something! I bet you are. Mum and Dad'll have a laugh!"

_Then Albus turned bright red, his fist clenching. He was ten years

old with no trace of any magic. The pictures on the wall burst, the glass shattering and covering the floor. He stared in horror at the mess he'd made. His mum would kill him. _

"Well done, Al," Harry said.

_"You're not mad?" Albus asked. _

"No, this is nothing...accidental magic. I blew up my Aunt Marge once you know..."

"Hello James, Fred," Ginny said. "We've brought lasagna, Hermione's recipe. She says her parents made the best."

James smiled and picked up Katrina, nearly six years old now. She had grown a bit over the summer, her long blonde hairs still tumbling down to her back and her eyes still dazzling blue. There would be no brother to watch over her when she went to Hogwarts, James thought. "Hello Kit-Kat," he said. "Remember Fred?" She nodded. "He's got a girlfriend!" The blonde's eyes widened. "I know, shocking really. You want to meet her?" Katrina nodded slightly, wrapping her arms around James's neck. "Alright. Mum, dad, we'll be back. I'll go fetch the girls."

James and Katrina walked down the hall to the elevator. When James first moved in he was skeptical of it, not sure if he could trust it. But eventually he learned it wasn't going to harm him. They traveled to the fifth floor, one above theirs, and walked down the room 54a. Katrina knocked and they waited.

Tegan opened the door, her flaming red hair pulled into a ponytail. "Hello James, Kat!" she said. "Come in, we'll just be a moment."

James walked in, whispering to Katrina, "That's Freddie's girlfriend. I can't believe he's got one!"

"They both have red hair," she whispered back giggling.

"I know, redhead's stick together I think."

"I would look hideous with red hair," said a voice.

James and Katrina both whipped around to see Jillian, blonde haired and blue eyes. Much like an older version of Katrina. Jillian hugged and kissed James, pecking a small kiss on Katrina's cheek. "Lovely to see you two again. My mum should be arriving downstairs shortly. I do hope Fred put away his PlayWitch magazines. I think Tegan's mum would highly disapprove. I wonder if I should bring flowers, or firewhisky! Maybe I'll go to -"

"Jillian, it'll be fine," James assured. He placed a hand on the small of her back and she calmed down.

"It's just, it's the first meal with all our families since we've moved into this building. I want it to go nicely."

"It will Jill."

"Yeah Jill!" Katrina said, backing up James. "I'm hungry."

"Mama G's brought pasta," James said. "Your favorite, I've been told."

"Let's go shall we?" Tegan said, looking over her shoulder to check everything.

They came back to see everyone surveying the apartment. James set down Katrina and walked over to Fred who sat on the couch. "Mate, what're they doing?"

"Found one of the magazine cutouts lay on the counter," Fred muttered. "I think they're checking for more."

"Idiots," Tegan said. "Boys will be boys."

The last guest, Jillian's mother, arrived and they all sat down to eat. The conversations varied from auror training to healing and then on quidditch. Everyone separated into thier own little conversations. Jillian and Hermione talking about Healing, naturally. Tegan James and Fred conversed about quidditch with Harry, George Mr. Quill. They debated who would make it to the next quidditch cup, Ireland winning last summer. Angelina, Mrs. Gillespie, Mrs. Quill, and Ginny also seemed to talk about how well their children were doing on thier own. Nobody really doubted the girls would fail but the boys came as a surprise. The apartment was clean, organized, still in tact, and they were under no debts or late bills.

"Have you heard from your siblings?" Ginny asked.

"Al wrote me today and Lily sent me Finx's fur ball last week," James said. "I bet a galleon it was Al's old owl feathers."

"Roxanne wrote me once, saying that she'd done better than I in divination. But who'd want to be good at that!"

"Too right you are," Harry agreed.

"Load of baloney," Hermione added. "Jillian, I heard you were taking as many classes as I was. You see, hard work pays off boys. What brought you into healing?"

Jillian blushed. "You know, I think it was all the times I spent with James in the hospital wing over the years that made me fond of it. When he broke his arm after winning the quidditch cup I practically knew how to fix it myself. Madame Pomfrey said I was gifted and wrote a letter for me."

"She got nearly all 'O's on her N.E.W.T.s!" James said. "Surprised, she's not too bright in transfiguration."

"I prefer Charms."

"I got an 'O' in Herbology," Jillian said. "I think it's just because Neville favors us."

"Well, mostly everyone." James shot a side glance at Fred.

"You blow up his mumble mine-_whatever_- once and you're done for!" Fred exclaimed.

"That plant was his prized possession," Ginny laughed. "No wonder you barley passed his class."

After the dinner, Jillian had cleared away the table and dishes. They bid goodnight to their parents, and Katrina, and passed out onto the couch. "Lovely meal," Jillian said. "Exhausting though. How'd you manage to fix the place up so well?"

"Concealment charm," Fred answered. "Well I'm headed to bed, bright and early practice tomorrow. G'night everybody." He yawned and headed to his room. Tegan had left as well back to her flat. "And Jillian, if you stay the night, please keep it quiet."

Jillian laughed and James rolled his eyes.

"Sleepover on a work night?" Jillian said, raising an eyebrow. "How exciting!"

"Go get your toothbrush and pajamas! We'll watch movies, stay up late, gossip about Helen in the Magical Bugs ward!"

Jillian laughed. "Shut up. I'll just borrow your things, and my toothbrush is already here."

"You should just move in!"

Jillian stared at him, her blue eyes sparkling. "You mean it?"

"Huh? I was -" he thought a moment. Living with her was just like Fred. Maybe Fred wouldn't mind Jillian living with them, maybe Tegan would. And his parents probably. He was only eighteen - almost nineteen. Would he be rushing into things? No, he thought. "Maybe this summer, so it'll be a full year living on our own. You know? So our parents don't think we're rushing things."

Jillian still grinned. "Of course! Oh James!" She hugged him tightly. "You know Fred's been pretty serious with Tegan. I mean three months is a pretty long time for him. Well, I'm exhausted, I think I'll turn in early for the night. I'll see you tomorrow." She grabbed her coat and headed for the front door. James leapt to his feet calling, "Aren't you going to stay?" She blew him a kiss, "No James, we've both got to get up early for training." And she left.

James fell onto his bed. Only two and half more years of auror training. He'd be nearly 21 by then. He didn't think much more about the future because when his head hit the pillow, he fell into a deep sleep.

31. Chapter 31: Tea Time

James was just a few more months away from becoming a full auror. Teddy stopped training him, giving him off to Harry. He was on paternity leave, Victoire and he were having their second born child. Their first was Reily Gabrielle Lupin, a gorgeous blonde part veela girl - who had just turned two years old. Their second was a son, Nicholas Edward Lupin who was just a few months old who also carried on Teddy's metamorphmagus traits.

Jillian moved in to Jame's flat the summer after they'd talked about it. Fred was fine, mostly spent his time with Tegan. They basically all lived in James's and Fred's flat. There wasn't a night Tegan didn't stay over either. James still thinks Fred would move in with her sooner or later. Jillian was a Healer now, working at St. Mungo's in the Spell Damage ward. Many times she aided wounded aurors and even James when a jinx went very wrong in training.

Albus, 19, was starting his second year of auror training and Lily, 18, was playing with the Holyhead Harpies as soon as she left Hogwarts. Katrina had finally shown her first bit of magic, levitating Harry's wand from his pocket to her room at now age 9. The only Weasley-Potter's that remained at Hogwarts was Hugo. He was probably lonely, James thought, being the youngest and only family left. But he had his friends.

Much to James's surprise, Lily still stuck with Malfoy. They were happy together, James couldn't deny, but it still surprised him. Malfoy had also taken to become an auror, exceeding all O's on his N.E.W.T.s, like Albus. Molly II also had gotten married, to some boy named Cory Flint. Mostly everyone expected James to be next.

It was Sunday evening in summer, nearing James's last month of training, and Jillian was out with Tegan doing girl stuff for the morning. James didn't mind, he purposely asked Tegan to take Jillian away. He left a note, claiming he'd gone to see his parents and would return later. He apparated right outside the Gillespie home and knocked on the door.

"Oh James, the kettle's ready," Mrs. Gillespie said ushering him inside. "I was so delighted to get your owl. I made cookies as well."

"Thank you, Ashely," James said wiping his shoes on the mat. "Hello, Sir,"

"James, I'm no longer your professor!" Mr. Gillespie said. "You should outta call me AJ by now, seeing as your practically part of the family."

"Right, _Prof - Si - _AJ." James blushed and looked at his shoes. He sat in their kitchen while Mrs. Gillespie poured him a cup of tea and set out a few of her cookies. Her and AJ sat across from him ready for him to speak. "Well I could've written it in letter, but I thought it'd be better in person." He bit his lip in nervousness and continued, "As you know, I'm in my last month of auror training and then I'll have a set career, hopefully. And Jillian's already a full time healer. Well I have money saved up, and inherited, in my Gringott's account and I'm almost set for a lifetime of no work. But Jillian and I both think it's suitable for us to have jobs. I would've asked sooner, but I wanted to finish my auror training before. I really love your daughter, and for sometime now, and I wanted your b-blessing to marry her."

Mrs. Gillespie looked as if she were going to cry. She smiled and squealed. "OF COURSE JAMES!"

Mr. Gillespie smiled, too, much to James's relief. "I do, too."

"Oh welcome to the family James!" Mrs. Gillespie sobbed, the tears

finally pouring out. "Do you have a ring than? Not that it matters but..."

James smiled, knowing the question would come. "After here I was planning to visit my parents. My mum was going to give me the ring. It was my grandmum's, Molly Weasley's. She wanted something special for Jillian. Apparently it's been passed down from the beginning of the Prewetts. Goblin made, silver with princess cut diamonds."

"James, you are such a lovely boy," Mrs. Gillespie said. "You'll be coming back with the ring, I hope."

"James, we give you our blessing."

James grinned. "Thank you, I promise to love her forever! And I wouldn't dream of not showing you the ring, Ashley."

"Well, best be on your way now, Jillian's coming for lunch later," Mrs. Gillespie said. "Wouldn't want to run into you, that'd just be a bit awkward, wouldn't it... We'll see you soon James, and anything we can do for the proposal, we will!"

"Have a good evening!" James disappeared from their home, a smile bigger than any, on his face.

"Mum? Dad?" James called into Potter Manor.

"Oh I was wondering when you'd show!" Ginny shouted from upstairs. There was a rush of noise and then Ginny appeared. "Oh I didn't think I could wait any longer!" She sat him on the couch and pulled out a maroon velvet box. James opened it and stared at its beauty. No doubt Jillian would love it. "It's charmed, to fit the finger it touches, you see. So no need to get it fixed. Oh I can't believe it!" James blushed. "When are you planning to?"

"I was thinking September 1st."

"That's a little far, don't you think?"

"Ginny, it's a month away," Harry said.

Ginny nodded but fidgeted with her wedding ring. "Are you sure you don't want help? I could get reservations for a top box at the quidditch games...well I'm sure the Chudley Cannons would be glad to get you tickets but still..."

"No mum, I've got it all planned out." She stared at him, eager to find the details. "You'll just have to wait and hear the story. Like the story you tell us every Valentine's day..."

"Very well. Katrina should be inside soon. She's been dying for her first flying lesson. I hope she'll be chaser, like me. I can teach her everything, you Teddy, and Al too. Or maybe seeker like Lily and Harry. Maybe even another keeper! The Wood's would love to teach her. She'll be delighted to hear the news! We're having a family lunch, Albus and Lily are coming as well."

"Ginny, calm down," Harry said. "She'll be excellent no matter what. So have you told anyone else, in the family I mean."

"Well I've already told Albus, since I see him mostly everyday. I'll tell Lily later, I suppose or maybe Teddy to help shake off nerves. But I don't want you to tell the rest of the family. I'd rather them see the ring on her."

"Of course, I almost obliterated Molly because she was too over thrilled when I asked for the ring!" Ginny said. The door opened and a jumble of items crashed. They all ran to the scene. It was only Katrina. She lugged the quidditch ball set from the shed to the house. It was quite obvious she wasn't going to wait longer.

"I'll take her," James said. "Hey Kit-Kat," He heaved the large box and kicked the door open wider, "See you later mum, dad. Do you think I could accio my broom? Or would the muggles thing it's strange seeing it fly across London?" He shrugged and followed Katrina out to the pitch in the yard.

Albus and Lily arrived an hour or so later. They talked for a bit catching up when Albus noticed James's absence. "Where's James? Thought he'd be first to arrive."

The door opened and James walked in grass stains and all, the small blonde trailing after him. She held a broom in one hand. Ginny nearly screamed at the dirt they tracked in but stopped when she saw what dragged it in. A thick, wooden bat was held in Katrina's other hand. "A Beater!" she exclaimed. "James! She's only eight!"

"Mum, she's a natural!" James said. "Sure she can aim and block and even spot out the snitch occasionally, but the bludgers were fantastic! Hit everything I sent into the air and pummeled them. I reckon she'd give Uncle George a run for his money!"

Ginny sighed. "Go wash up, Dory'll have lunch out soon."

Harry snickered. Ginny turned to him, hands on her hip. He immediately stopped.

"What? If she's a natural at beating, than she's a beater. First in the Potter's I think, I bet Fred would love to teach her."

"Mum, she's eight, she'll get wrecked if the bludger misses!" Albus said.

"Please, just because you couldn't even hold the bat without falling off your broom at eight, doesn't mean you have to deprive her of it!" Lily teased. "Besides, I started playing when I wasn't even five."

Albus rubbed his stomach in memory. She had picked up the bat and swung at the bludger without even looking, shooting it straight at him. It took about a week for the healers to get his intestines out of knots.

Everyone sat at the table eating when Ginny kicked James's foot.

"Gee mum, ever so subtle!" he muttered. "Well Lily, Katrina, you're the only two I haven't told. Congrats!" Both shot glares at him. "Right - er - I'm going to propose to Jillian."

Lily's glare turned straight into a smile. "Galloping gargoyles! You're serious!"

"Well...that is my middle name."

"When?" Katrina asked.

"_September first_."

"WHAT!" Lily exclaimed. "That's like a month away! J, what're you waiting for?"

"Well,_ L_, I'm waiting for September first. _Obviously_."

"Duh Lily," Albus muttered.

"Butt out of this, _A_," Lily sneered.

"K!" Katrina shouted, wanting to be apart of the quarrel.

It wasn't rare when the three fought like they were back in hogwarts. It would probably last until their old age, fighting over who would die first. Katrina, so far in age, felt so connected to each of her siblings but still so far. She sank in her seat and watched them fight.

"If anyone's going to butt out it's you!" Albus shouted. "You're the last to know! I bet he wasn't even going to tell you until he did it!"

"Well I'm sorry I have a life I need to live! I don't follow James's every move."

"I have a life! I just happen to be apart of James's!"

"Where's your girlfriend? Oh I'm sorry, you don't _have_ one!"

"Lovely day, innit Kat?" Harry said. Katrina giggled. "How about I see some of those beater moves?" She nodded and the two snuck out quietly, Ginny too busy watching to notice.

"I don't go after my brothers best friends!"

"At least I don't steal my brothers exes."

Albus's smirk wiped and he scowled. "That's an _unmentionable_. Might as well say another while we're at it! Don't forget the time I walked in on you and Scorp...doing the deed."

James mouth dropped.

The three created the "Unmentionable's" before James left for Hogwarts. "Unmentionable's" were things they vowed never to mention in front of each other, or the family for the matter of that. They all had to agree on it, or at least two of the three. When one did mention it, they were forced for a "trail". A very awkward argument held in any room.

"My room, _now_," James muttered.

The three marched upstairs in silence leaving Ginny and Dory sitting alone.

"Mistress Ginny would like Dory to put away dishes?" Dory asked.

"No," Ginny said. "I want you to eat with me. We are family."

Dory stared at the sandwiches, her green eyes bright. "Oh, thank you Mistress!"

Upstairs James slammed his door and put a silencing charm around it. "YOU AND SCORPIUS HAD ... SEX!" he shuddered.

Lily blushed. "It's non of either of your business what Scorpius and I do. I'm eighteen!"

"Well you were sixteen when you did it," Albus said.

"Well I'm sorry that you're still a virgin! Must hurt seeing your best mate shagging when you've just barley gotten a snog."

"I can't believe - when was this!" James said.

"The year you left," Albus said ignoring Lily. "I was up late finishing McGonagall's homework and so I went up. The door wasn't unlocked, a key sign to anyone that some's shagging inside, so I opened it. I'll never forget seeing Lily all over him."

"I was still dressed."

"If you count just undergarments."

James shuddered again. "Ew, Lily...You're too young."

"Hello! You were barley fourteen when you did it and Albus...I can't say much for you. You said an _unmentionable_!"

"_Only_! Because you did first. Mentioning Lucy."

"Yeah Lily, that wasn't cool," James agreed. "In front of mum, too. Dad was barley luck enough to escape before she saw him. I say four "I love you's" each, then a kiss on the cheek, and a hug."

"I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you," Lily said.

"Love you too, love you too, love you too, love you too," Albus said.

Lily hugged him and he kissed her cheek.

The anger seemed to leave the room. The one who wasn't apart of the unmentionable always gave the punishment. Adoration to each other. They all knew deep down they loved each other, but saying it out loud was an embarrassment.

"Would you like to see the ring?" James asked pulling out the box.

Both leaped over to him eager to see it.

32. Chapter 32: September 1st

"Tegan, what are you doing?" Jillian asked, putting on her powder blue dress. The one James's loved.

"Remember the day you said I could dress you for one date you went on? I've been so bored with Fred out of town...Now sit." She grabbed a white ribbon and pulled back a few front pieces, tying them in the back into a nice bow.

Jillian smiled, "I haven't worn my hair like this...gee, since I was eleven!"

"I thought it'd look cute. Besides I bet Jame's will love it."

"How do I look?" She got up and twirled around.

"Lovely. Now don't be late, I've got a television program coming on! Fred's got me hooked on it." She walked out of her room and sat on the couch with a bowl of chips. "Tell me how it goes."

"We're just going out to Diagon Alley. Nothing we've never done before. I suppose you really are bored! I'll see you later."

Tegan smirked into her blanket when Jillian left.

"James, you'll be fine," Teddy said. "She'll say yes! Stop shaking!"

"How'd you do it with Victoire?"

"I think I ran into a pole before the nerves left. But I don't think you should do that."

"I'll run into a barrier."

"Probably."

The door handle jiggled.

"She's here!" James squealed.

"Good luck." Teddy whispered before the door opened. "Hello Jillian!"

She smiled at the turquoise-haired auror standing in the kitchen. "Hello Teddy, how're the kids?"

"Good, they've been asking for you two recently."

"We'll have to babysit. Merlin knows how you and Victoire could get a night out. Maybe tonight, when James and I come back. I've heard about the new broom coming out, I think James and I should check it out. So what've you come for?"

Teddy smiled, hoping to distract her from Jame's jitters, "I was just

dropping by to tell James his new schedule. He'll start official auror business next week.

"Brilliant," James said in a very hoarse voice. He cleared his throat, "Stay out of the candy, will you?"

Teddy nodded, immediately walking to the cabinet.

James took Jillian's hand and apparated to Kings Cross, much to Jillian's surprise. It was filled with parents and children heading to platform 9 3/4. They stood right outside the barrier, James's palms sweating. He let go of her hand and ran his own through his hair.

"James, why are we here? You haven't got any family left to see off," Jillian said. "Maybe you've got a cold coming, it might've distracted you. Come on, I'll apparate us -"

James had grabbed her hand but pulled her through the barrier. He dragged her through the maze of people and stopped right in the middle of the long scarlet train. James looked at the clock, 10:50. He paced a few moments before stopped and grabbing Jillian's hands checking the clock on last time.

"10:55," he said shakily. "September first, 2015, at 10:55. The first time I ever saw you. You were wearing a blue dress, your hair tied back in a ribbon. I wearing a blue shirt, grey shorts, and a grey sweatshirt from Chuddley Cannons." Jillian looked down and smiled to see he also was wearing the exact same thing. "Teddy was snogging Victoire in the corner over there, Lily was crying, and Albus was speechless staring at the train. The moment I saw you, I had to know you. I made a fool, trailing after you on the train until I found your compartment. You were with Quill, my friend, so I figured you couldn't be too hard to meet. But I made an arse out of myself trying to impress you. I remember Quill told me to get off my high Hippogriff. So of course I pretended to hate you and then I stopped by boyish antics and pursued you, in a way. Happiest day in my life. Then of course, we became friends, second best day in my life. And then you said yes. Merlin it was music to my ears! When we made out in the tent, or in broom cupboards or where ever we could.

"You moved in, stuck with me through everything. You're gorgeous, the most beautiful witch I ever laid my eyes on on that faithful September 1st. You saved my arse going through N.E.W.T.s and you play a damn brilliant game of quidditch. You're so stubborn, but so am I. I say those were the best days of my life - better than getting my letter, becoming quidditch captain, or becoming an auror, but really every day I spend with you is the best day of my life. I really love you, so much, and I hope that September 1st, 2025, at -" he checked the clock and got down on one knee, grabbing the box out of his shorts., "11:01, you'd make me the happiest man alive and marry me. Will you?"

Jillian was in tears, the words lost. She nodded uttering a "yes" and he slipped the ring on. He stood up and he hugged her so tightly he thought he'd never let go. All around wizards clapped for them, even the conductor tooted the horn before taking off to Hogwarts.

"James, oh my merlin!" she cried some more, leaning into him. "I love you, too!" She leaned up and kissed him again.

"I've been nervous for ages," he admitted.

"Is that why you've been avoiding me?" He nodded. "Well I can't blame you. If I had to propose to me, I'd be a wreck!"

He chuckled. "So, soon to be Jillian Potter, would you care to go to Diagon Alley with me?"

"I would love too! _Finacee_. I think I'll get used to that."

"Just like when you started calling my 'Boyfriend'."

"Just like yesterday I was falling out of trees onto your lap."

33. Chapter 33: Wedding Bells

July 25th. The fateful day Jillian fell into James Potter's lap while hiding in the woods. The fateful day she fell in love with him.

"Jillian calm down!" Tegan said, curling her hair into long tumbling waves.

"In less than an hour I'm going to be Jillian _Potter_," she mumbled. "Holy Fuck!"

"Language dear," Mrs. Gillespie said entering the room. "I just saw James, he's just as nervous as you."

"What's he got to be nervous about? He doesn't need to worry about tripping over his dress! He doesn't need to worry about makeup, or getting the dress stained! He's just got to stand there! Oh his whole family, my family, I need water!"

"Bridezilla returns," Tegan laughed.

James and Jillian had spent months prepping this. The backyard of the Burrow was decked out in powder blue bows and white lilies. In the field farther from the tent were rows of chairs on two sides and a arc covered in lilies and little quaffles the flew overhead. A long freshly mowed aisle lead there and a podium where Finx, the devilish white cat sat licking his paws waiting for Lily to come.

James was up in Ron's room with Teddy, Albus, and Fred. Jillian was in Ginny's old room with Tegan, Liv Wood, and her mother. Everyone else found themselves downstairs or prepping under Molly Weasley's orders.

They had each chosen three bridesmaids and groomsmen, including the honors. Jillian had picked Tegan and maid of honor, Liv Wood (close friend and chaser on the Gryffindor quidditch team at the time), Lily but she had another job as well, so Katrina was her Jr. Bridesmaid. James had picked Fred as Man of Honor, Albus and Teddy as other groomsmen. Neither were hurt in his decision. "I would've had Scorp be mine anyways" Albus had said with a chuckle.

James went downstairs to greet his guests and told them to start

seating themselves. Potter/Weasley's on the right and Gillespie's on the left, and friends where ever. "Grandmum, you did a brilliant job decorating," he said to Molly. "Enjoy yourself, no more fussing! I've convinced Aunt Hermione that Dory and her friends offered to cook for tonight and everything will be set."

"But James -"

"No. I forbid you to lift another finger! Go have some firewhisky or champagne! I insist. Get mum a little drunk too."

Molly smiled. "I'll see you soon. And here are the rings, I kept them safe."

"Thanks." She kissed his cheek and scurried off outside. "Hey Kit-Kat, you ready?"

She nodded. "You know, I bet you five galleons mum'll start blubbering before Jillian even comes out."

"Where have you got five galleons?" He asked.

She smirked, obviously picking up the infamous Potter smirk over her time, and shrugged. "I've got ways."

"Alright, I say she lasts 'til the vows."

The shook on it.

"By the way, Liv Wood says she'll keep a spot open on the Harpies when I'm older. Says I'm shoe-in for quidditch captain at Hogwarts. Even Lily, too."

"Let's pray it's Gryffindor."

She smiled. "I was thinking Slytherin."

"Maybe you should go talk to Al."

She laughed and ran off into the Burrow.

James saw Victoire with Reily and Nicholas. "Here," he took Nicholas, "is Reily ready?"

"Just about," Victoire said holding a navy blue basket. "She's been practicing all morning! Throwing everything around the house. She's so excited. I've hand picked these lilies a few moments ago and she can't get her hands off."

Jillian had picked Reily to be their flower girl and Nicholas to be their ring bearer, with Victoire's help of course.

"I think he wants his daddy," James said bouncing Nicholas gently. "I'll go find Teddy." He walked off spotting Teddy's hair from afar. He was at the mini-bar under the large tent. He walked under, the rush of cool air billowing. Jillian was always excellent at Charms. "Teddy, your son wants a word." Teddy smiled and took the baby. "I'm so nervous." He took whatever Teddy had in his cup and downed it in one gulp. "Got another one?"

"James you'll be fine. A few moments until time. I'll give Vicky Nick and then we'll go to the stand. I can't believe you've got Lily to be Justice of the Peace!"

"Well we thought she'd be best. Besides, Jillian really wanted Katrina to do something in the wedding."

"James, mate, let's go!" Fred said seizing his arm.

James ran a hand through his hair, a nervous habit of his, and stood there, alone, and everyone's eyes on him. He fixed his satin blue bow tie and fidgeted with his wand in his pocket. He stared at Finx, who lay lazily over Lily's papers. "You behave, will you?" The cat rolled onto his back playfully and meowed. "Good."

Everyone was seated when Ginny waved her wand. Music started playing and the bridesmaids and groomsmen came out together. Reily skipped down the aisle gracefully, her veil shining, and tossed the petals while Victoire trailed behind with Nicholas holding the rings carefully before giving them to Teddy.

Everyone turned when Ginny, who started blubbering already much to James's disappointment, and Mrs. Gillespie opened the curtains to show Jillian in her stunning white dress. Her father took her arm and they walked together and stopped right before the rows of chairs ended. He kissed her cheek and nodded to James before sitting back down.

Jillian took his hands and smiled.

"We're already out five galleons," he whispered. "And you look bloody gorgeous today."

She blushed, "You do, too. But what'd you do know?"

"Made a bet when mum would start weeping with Kat." She rolled her eyes. "Love you."

"Love you."

Lily stroked Finx and stood behind the podium and cleared her voice. "Welcome family, friends, owls, and house elves, to celebrate the covenant of James Sirius Potter and Jillian Marlene Gillespie. We are gathered here today to celebrate the merge of two wonderful people."

"James, you look at the beautiful woman before you, who will be your wife. She will look to you for encouragement, love, protection, understanding, and support. Never take her for granted, because she's a gifted witch in all areas of magic, and always stand by her no matter how stubborn she may be." A few laughs from the audience arose.

"I promise to love her unconditionally, encourage her, understand any girl issues, and support her in every way."

"Jillian, before you stands a prat," Lily said as more people laughed. "But you love him, and most people ignore the prat side. He also will look to you for encouragement, love, protection, understanding, and support. Never take him for granted and promise to

always stay by his side, no matter how much trouble he gets into."

"I promise to always encourage you, love you, protect you, understand you, and support you, even if we land in Azkaban. We'll be there together."

"Probably for blowing up the Ministry for fireworks," Lily commented. "Now it's my turn to talk. I remember Teddy, my godbrother, saying how life wasn't worth waiting for. James obviously took that to heart and set the record for most detentions in Hogwarts yet. I can only speak for James, but he was infatuated with Jillian. Mr. Popular here thought annoying the hippogriffs out of her would make her like him faster. I knew he liked her deep inside, and then he asked her out. And she said no.

"Nobody knows this story but those who stand up here, and Tegan and Fred. One day, though I know I shouldn't have, I eavesdropped on a few conversations. Jillian had just told off James saying 'Sluts dated James effing Potter.' Well look where we are now. So, Fred and James made a bet for 10 galleons that James could make Jillian date him by the end of summer, maybe even fall in love. Long story short, Fred lost the bet. However, I have here, the ten galleons _James_ _paid_ _Fred_." She held up the small drawstring sack. "Of course Jillian found out about the bet and told him off, as any decent human would, but eventually got over it. James was a downright git back then, but she's done good on him. Why did James pay Fred instead? I wondered, as most of you probably are too. If Fred lost the bet than it was only right James be ten galleons richer and his ego go up twenty times more.

'He said he gave Fred the money because he fell in love, openly and admitted it something he rarely did in his _player_ days. He said that he'd trade all the money in the world to keep Jillian and some little bet wasn't worth losing her. He'd rather break his broom and be a muggle if he had to. Today I stand here, two people in love because she fell out of a tree and he carried her back home, madly in love, and," she put a hand on her hip smiling, "if I had a sickle for the amount of times I walked in on them snogging I would be richer than all of you combined! Honestly, I've said "Get a room," more times than I've used the Bat-Bogey-Hex. And that's a lot.

"Now, let's get on with the vows. James, do you take, Jillian, to be your lawful wedded wife to have and behold from this day on, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, as long as you both shall live?"

"I do." James said.

"Jillian, do you take, James the prat, to be your lawful wedded husband, to have and behold from this day on, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, as long as you both shall live?"

"I do."

"Alright, Ted?" Teddy gave her the rings. "James take this ring from me and repeat after me. I, James Sirius Potter, the prat."

James rolled his eyes. "I James Sirius Potter." Lily cleared her

throat. "The prat."

"Take this ring I thee wed. I offer you my hand, and my heart as I know they will be safe with you." James repeated. "All that I am I give to you and all that I have I share with you." He repeated and placed the ring on her finger, aligning it with the engagement ring.

"Jillian, take this ring from me and repeat after me. I, Jillian Marlene Gillespie." She did. "'Take this ring I thee wed. I offer you my hand, and my heart as I know they will be safe with you.'" She repeated. "All that I am I give to you and all that I have I share with you." She repeated and placed the ring on his finger.

"Everybody, welcome Mr. and Mrs. Potter! You may snog now, and get a room."

James smirked and kissed Jillian dipping her back.

Everyone celebrated the newlyweds by dancing, drinking, and partying til dawn. James and Jillian said goodbye to their families before heading to their honeymoon. Sydney, Australia. They went up to their Presidential Suite and practically fell on the bed before the door even shut.

James opened his eyes, all of yesterdays memories flooding back. He smiled at the blonde before him and kissed her forehead. "Morning, Love."

"Morning _Husband_," she murmured in her sleep.

"Come on Gillespie! I want to go scuba diving and eat!"

"It's Potter, _Potter_."

He smirked. "You're always right, aren't you."

"Well I said 'I'll never fall for you' and look where we are now."

34. Chapter 34: Baby, Baby, Baby

"Jill," James said holding her back, "you should let me do this, I really don't like you this high."

"James, I've got it!" She reached on her tip-toes on the ladder trying to put the star on the tip of their tree. Her belly was protruding out of her sweater giving James a glimpse at his soon to be baby. "There. That wasn't too hard."

"Love, let me do the rest, I don't think it's safe."

"Please, I'm a healer. I know what's safe and what's not." She climbed down the ladder and pecked his cheek. "Now, would you make us some hot cocoa?" She rubbed her stomach giving him a pleading smile.

"Okay, but not one foot on that ladder until I return!"

Jillian rolled her eyes and sat on the couch sinking deep into the leather. "You know what would be cool?" James murmured something but she dismissed it. "If the baby was born on Christmas!"

"And...?"

"We could name him Jesus." He stared at her with a blank expression. "I'm kidding. But really, it's almost the due date and I'd really like it if we started talking names."

"It would help if we found the sex first." James set their drinks on the table and sat next to her.

"No, no. I want to be surprised! So, I was thinking. Your family has this knack for naming people after those who died in the war. Or like Teddy and Victoire, names that sound like dead people. Like Reily and Remus and Nicholas and Nymphadora." James nodded. "Well I don't really want to do that unofficial tradition."

"Me either," James said. "Al hates his name and Lily and I are just reminded of our grandparents. Even Fred said that he's a constant reminder of dead Uncle Fred. But I'm hoping for a boy. Katrina wrote a few days ago from Hogwarts, she think's it'll be a boy too."

"That would be cute. Or a baby girl."

"Yeah...Ooh we could do what those families do when they name all their kids with the same letter. We're Jillian and James, so it could be Joe and Jennifer. Not that I like those names. Our baby - or babies - are going to be legendary, so they can't have a too ordinary name."

"I was thinking for a boy, Nathaniel."

"Nathaniel? Like Nathan?"

Jillian laughed. "Yes, like Nathan Potter. You know? Nathan's such a handsome name, every Nathan I've known is good looking."

James shrugged. "With our genes, he'll be the best looking. Maybe black hair with blue eyes?"

"Or blonde and hazel."

"Hazel Potter?" James said. "That sounds nice. Jillian, James, Hazel, and Nathan."

"I like that," Jillian said. "But we'll need backups. I hate picking one and one only. What about Zac, or Dylan. Ooh, I like Quinn, for a girl. Quinn Potter."

"Like Albus's owl... but I like that better than Hazel. Jillian, James, Quinn and Dylan? No, that doesn't have a ring to it. It doesn't roll off the tongue. What about...Clayton."

"Clayton and Quinn Potter...that's cute. What about Hudson? Or Genevieve, maybe Vallery, or Victoira! Hmm...or Brooklyn. I like that one."

"Okay love, how about we write out five names for each and separately rate them," James suggested pulling out a piece of parchment. He wrote out the names and tore the paper into two and turned his back. "No looking..."

They turned back to each other about five minutes later and compared papers. They were both thinking along the same lines. James hung the papers on the fridge with some sticky tape. "Well I guess we'll decided when the baby's born."

There was a scream echoing through St. Mungo's on December 15th, 2026. Harry, and Ginny, along with AJ and Ashley Gillespie ran through the wards and stood in the waiting room. More people arrived: Tegan, Fred, Lily and Albus. They sat around for what seemed like hours, one going for the half hour coffee run for everyone. Finally, at 3pm that day, a high pitched cry came out. They all stood up when the medi-witch came out.

"Okay," she counted the heads, 8 in all, "alright, follow me into the delivery room."

They walked in, Jillian holding the baby swaddled in a blanket. Jillian looked physically exhausted, but she still looked beautiful. James sat on the chair next to her, staring in awe at the baby and cradling his hand at the same time.

"Jillian, your screams were so loud!" Lily said closing the door. "Honestly, you could've woken the dead!"

Jillian chuckled, "Oh that wasn't me."

They all looked at James.

"Hey, don't judge me until you have to hold her hand when she delivers!" he exclaimed.

"James, you'll wake him," Jillian said quietly.

Ginny smiled, "_Him_" The new parents both nodded.

"He's so cute!" Ashley cooed. "Oh he's looks just like you James."

"With her eyes," Harry pointed out.

The baby boy stared up at all the strangers. He didn't cry, he didn't sleep, he just watched. So carefully everyone's movement. He had Jame's facial features but by far Jillian's bright blue eyes and long eyelashes.

"What'd you name him?" Albus asked.

Jillian looked at James and nodded and said in unison, "Nathaniel James Potter."

After the first hour Jillian got tired and wanted to sleep before leaving. James took Nathaniel outside and let the family hold him. They were admitted out around 7 pm and went back to their house. The nursery was blue, a nice baby blue, and decorated with quaffles,

snitches, bludgers, and brooms. Molly made the little mobile of a little quidditch player trying to catch the snitch that played a little tune when it spun.

"You think he'll like quidditch?" Jillian asked placing the baby in the crib.

James scoffed, "I sure hope so."

35. Chapter 35: The Potters - Epilogue

Harry Potter was the last of the Potter line. He was head to head with the darkest wizards of all time. If he died, the line of Potter blood would be extinct. Luckily, he defeated Voldemort and raised his three children. James, Albus, and Lily with his wife, Ginny Weasley. Of course the Weasley's only grew as the children got older. But now Harry had a family to call his own.

After the birth of James and Jillian's son, Nathaniel, they had three more children. A second boy they named Clayton, their first (and only) girl Quinn, and their youngest boy Evan. They bought land right near the Burrow and built their house.

Albus married to Maeve Finnigan whom he reunited with after his Hogwarts days. As a wedding present, Harry and Ginny gave them 12 Grimmauld Place for them to fix up and live in. They didn't have any children, but a Irish Setter dog they named Rogan.

Lily and Scorpius were married, with one child. A baby girl but soon after Lily was told by the healers she'd never be able to have another baby again.

Katrina became the first female beater on the Chuddley Cannons, much to Ron's enjoyment. And she's been playing with them for nearly three years straight. Her original plan was to play for the Harpies, and she did right out of Hogwarts like Lily had. But a few years later, when she was 24, the Cannons had open tryouts for a new beater and chaser, she thought she'd try out. Albus thought it was silly, but Fred trained with her night and day. Since he was a retired player he knew how to impress the team and kick ass, not that Katrina needed a lesson on that.

Nathan Potter was currently in his sixth year at Hogwarts. He looked just like James, messy black hair with Jillian's bright blue eyes. Clayton Potter was in his fifth year at Hogwarts. He was dirty blonde with dark blue eyes and a Hogwarts heart throb, much like his older brother. Quinn was the only girl who had just started her fourth year at Hogwarts. She was almost the image of her mother. except the eyes - long wavy blonde hair and hazel eyes, like her father. It wasn't a surprise Nathan and Clayton kept a close eye on the boys who tried to flirt with their baby sister. Evan Potter was the fourth and final of James and Jillian's and in his second year at Hogwarts. He wasn't really planned, a real shock when Jillian took the pregnancy test. He didn't really look like either of his parents, with light brown hair and dark chocolate eyes. He looked more like Albus in James's mind.

All four children inherited their parents brilliant quidditch skills. Evan, however, was the only one sorted out of Gryffindor. He was in

Ravenclaw - he obviously got his mother's brains. Nathan was captain of the Gryffindor quidditch team and played chaser, like both his parents. Clayton played keeper, Quinn was seeker, and Evan played beater. Together, they formed an un-defeatable team.

"Alright team," Nathan said in the huddle of sweaty players. "Clay, you fake a drop and Sanders will catch it. Everyone thinks she'll shoot, but she won't. Sanders, you throw the quaffle diagonally to me and I will shoot from there. If I make it, we're up a hundred-sixty so we win even if Ravenclaw catches the snitch. Just watch out for Evan, he likes to play dirty."

He ran a hand through his messy black hair, a habit of his. "Quinny, you catch that snitch no matter what, even if this does work."

Quinn nodded, "No...I'll just let Jameson (the Ravenclaw seeker) catch it before me. Who do you think I am, Nate!"

Clayton rolled his eyes. "Just get the snitch, Quinn."

They heard their names being called and the Gryffindor quidditch team flew out.

36. Author's Note

This is my first story, hope you liked it! Most probably will skip this but thanks anyways. Please comment or review! Xoxo, QueenG

End
file.